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Volume 17 Number 5398

officials on a plan for long-term monitoring of Baghdad's arms programme. The talks scheduled to continue through Sept. 9 are in response to what sources here said was an agreement in principle reached in Baghdad in July with Rolf Ekeus, the head of a panel supervising Iraqi

AMMAN WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1993, RABIE'AL AWAL 14, 1414

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Peace talks resume; self-rule signing expected

Husseini: No deal without Jerusalem

PARIS — The head of Palestiman negotiators at Arab-Israeli talks has said Israel must drop its refusal to discuss the status of Jerusalem if it wants a peace

Faisal Al Husseini said in an interview published in the French daily Liberation Tuesday that Jerusalem remained the main stumbling block in the peace

"I cannot accept that there will be no talks on the future of Jerusalem for two years," he said. "We must discuss now,

secretly and publicly."

The interview reflected contiming ancertainty and differences over the fate of Arab Jerasalem, occupied by Israel in 1967, in an historic draft agreement providing for Israeli withdrawal from Jericho and Gaza Strip.
Yasser Abed Ratibo, head of

the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) information de-partment, his said the PLO and Israel would make "certain arrangements" to cover Jerusalem during the interim period and negotiations over the city's final status would begin two years

after the agreement was signed.
Israel has said in the past Jerusalem would remain its "capital" and could not be negotiated. It has yet to clarify whether the Gaza-Jericho option dealt withthe Holy City.

Husseini said an agree-

ment on Geza and Jericho would be a first step towards a settle-ment but Palestinians insisted on Israel's withdrawal from all occupied territories.

"If Israelis do not change their attitude, do not end the isolation. the encirclement of the Holy City, then you will not find anyone to sign an accord, including on Gaza and Jericho."

Mr. Husseini called Jerusalem the Palestinians' bottom line and said Gaza residents would never accept an agreement leaving aside the fate of Jerusalem. "If anyone believes we Palesti-

nians can do without east Jerusalem, he is completely mistaken.

Previous and bilateral talks have dealt with Jerusalem and Israelis know our position fully well. It is the stumbling block in the talks,"

In other developments:

Arafat's return

Israel could agree to the return of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat to the occupied territories following the Palestinian autonomy agreement, Israeli Deputy De-fence Minister Motta Gur said. "It is possible that Israel will agree to the return (of Arafat) on

condition that it is presented as an individual case," Mr. Gur said in a radio interview. Such a case should not be seen

as Israel agreeing to the principle of the "right of return" for Palestinian refugees, Mr. Gur

Mr. Arafat left the West Bank in 1967 when Israel seized the territory.

Rubinstein boycotts talks

The head of israel's negotiating team with the Palestinians said he was poycotting the Middle East peace talks which opened Tuesday in Washington in protest at the autonomy accord.

Eliakim Rubinstein toki Israeli radio he would not travel to Washington because he opposed

Muse to Israel

Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Masa will fly to Israel Wednesday to discuss the agreement between israel and the PLO, Egyptian foreign ministry sources said.

Mr. Musa attended a two anda ball hour meeting on Tuesday between Mr. Araba and Egyp-ting President Glosia Muberak. No further details on Mr. Musa's trip were immediately

Israeli document sees Jordan-W. Bank link

WASHINGTON — Arabs and Israelis resumed Middle East peace talks in Washington Tues-day and one of the chief Israeli negotiators predicted a historic agreement on Palestinian autonomy would be signed within two

An official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said the text of a declaration of principles was ready for signing but still needed formal PLO

Israel's government foresees an eventual federation linking Jordan with a Palestinian-ruled West Bank and Gaza Strip, the Israeli embassy in Paris said.

The embassy said in a Frenchanguage statement summarising Israel's proposal for Palestinian self-rule that Israel remained opposed to the creation of an independent Palestinian state and would keep control of Jerusalem.

The statement said: "For a permanent solution, the Israeli government foresees a confederal or federal arrangement between fordan and the territories of the West Bank and Gaza, from which Israel would withdraw."

It said: "Israel remains

opposed to the creation of an ependent Palestinian state.", The Palestinians were aware that Israel "will make no compromise on the status of Jerusalem as the undivided capital of Israel under Israeli sovereignty," it said.

"While it is clear the Palestinians will raise the issue of Jerusalem during the negotiations on a permanent status, it should be equally clear that Isreal will inder no circumstances change its position on this question of principle," the statement said.

foresees self-rule for the Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip and in West Bank town of Jericho, as a first step towards autonomy for all Palestinians in

the West Bank. In Washington the head of the Israeli delegation negotiating with the Syrians, Itamar Rabinovich, said in Washington that a signing ceremony for the autonomy agreement would take place within two weeks. "It will take a couple of days to crystallise," he

But Nabil Shaath of the PLO said no more work on the text was needed. "Everything is finished:" he said.

"Of course it requires the approval of the (PLO) Executive Committee, as it did of the cabinet of Israel," he added. The Israeli cabinet approved the agreement on Monday night. appetizers," said the deputy lead- faq Allaf expressed hope that er of the Palestinian delegation, Saeb Erakat, who was being briefed on details of the pact Monday night. "Now it's time for the main course," said Dr. Era-

kat, a resident of Jericho. To prepare for the formal talks, members of the Israeli, Palestinian, Syrian, Jordanian and Lebanese delegations on Monday called on Dennis Ross, an aide to Secretary of State Warren Christopher, and other

At Monday's meeting with Arab delegates, U.S. officials discussed some of the stickier details, such as Israel's insistence that it retain jurisdiction and control over the estimated 3,300 Jewish settlers in Gaza and Jericho. Under the PLO-Israeli plan,

Israeli forces would be removed from Palestinian population cen-tres in Gaza and Jericho but still

See page 4 for full text of proposed 'declaration of principles'

"We have a deal that should make the two sides happy and that I think goes way beyond a pical interim agreement." Dr. aath added. "The agreement is all-encompassing. It sets the agenda for the final settlement." Mr. Rabinovich said he hoped

for progress in Israel's demand for peace with Syria, but added: "To be realistic I don't think an agreement can be reached between Israel and Syria that

Palestinian negotiators arriving here Monday said word of the Gaza-Jericho agreement caught them by complete surprise when it started leaking out over the "For 22 months we were the

would be deployed in areas inhabited by the settlers, according to diplomats familiar with the docu-

The Israeli military also would retain control over the border crossings between Gaza and Egypt and between the Jericho area and Jordan. Asked if a "declaration of prin-

ciples," on Syrian-Israeli peace could be reached during the current round, Mr. Rabinovich told Within this round, that prob-

ably would be over-stated, but our Syrian counterparts spoke of trying to achieve it during this round or next, which I think makes it more realistic,' Chief Syrian negotiator Mouaf-

progress with the Palestinians would have positive effects on other talks. Mr. Rabinovich said the pact could spur progress to-wards a Syrian-Israeli agreement. "To be realistic. I don't think

an agreement can be reached between Israel and Syria that soon," Mr. Babinovich added. Earlier, Israeli foreign Minister Shimon Peres told CBS television in Israel that once the PLO renounces "terrorism" and the goal of destroying Israel, "it could become a regular political party and we would gladly talk with

"We are right now in a very dynamic stage, and things are really running ahead full force and it may happen quite soon, there will be some new hurdles on the road," he said.

Outside the State Department, 30 demonstrators of the late militant Rabbi Meir Kahane shouted slogans against Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin for secretly working out a pact with

"Rabin is a traitor," "not an inch of eretz (greater) Israel," "Peace now, war later," chanted the protestors.

An Israeli newspaper poll published Tuesday showed 74 per cent of Palestinians in the occupied territories back the agreement with Israel on self-rule. The Dahaf telephone poll of

504 Palestinians for the Yedioth Alironoth newspaper showed 24 per cent opposed the agreement while two per cent had no opin-

The poll, the first survey by Dahaf of Palestinians in the occu-The Jordan News Agency, Petpied territories, had a margin of error of four per cent.



His Majesty King Hussein with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad in Damascus on Tuesday (Peti

King, Assad discuss Arab coordination in peace talks

Jordan, Syria 'surprised' by Israel-PLO deal; Lebanon says self-rule plan is flawed

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter and agency dispatches

Hussein Tuesday paid a working visit to Syria where he held talks with President Hafez Al Assad on the latest developments in the Middle East peace process and Arab coordination in the 22month-old Arab-Israeli peace

ra, said the discussions between the King and President Assad

AMMAN — His Majesty King included a closed-door session without aides and covered "bilateral issues and means of restor-

ing Arab solidarity."
The two leaders "stressed the importance of Arab coordination in ensuring a just, durable and ensive peace" in the

It did not elaborate. But the King's trip to Syria came after an

Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel on limited Palestinian autonomy in the occupied terri-Syrian presidential spokesman

Jibran Kuriyeh confirmed that the Israel-PLO accord was discussed by the King and President The two leaders "discussed the

Israel-Palestinian accord, which surprised the two countries and

(Continued on page 10)

page called by Palestinian

for the Liberation of Paler

hundreds of rioters b!

approaches to the sha-

tions, including the Popular F

General Command (PFL being

Shops and cafes were il coop

U.S. may shift stance on PLO is Arafat seeks to defend his deal with Israel Combined agency dispatches PLO, but not Palestine

Combined agency dispatches

WASHINGTON — U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher indicated Tuesday that the United States was reconsidering its refusal to hold talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"There is no chance at the present time. We had our concerns in the past but we will be following closely the situation as it evolves," Mr. Christopher told a small group of journal-

Mr. Christopher reaffirmed U.S. opposition to establishment of a Palestinian state. He said statehood was not part of the accord Israel and the PLO have worked out.

"It does not take the step" while spelling out what is due to happen over the next five years, Mr. Christopher said. Besides, he said, "The Un-ited States has never supported" a Palestinian state. On talking to the PLO, however, Mr. Christopher said, "obviously there are developments taking place that we are going to follow very carefully.

The Reagan administration in December 1988 dropped a ban on dealing with the PLO after PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat renounced "terrorism" and acknowledged. Israel's ex-

The Bush administration resumed the prohibition in June 1990 after a raid on Tel Aviv beaches by elements of the

Israel, meanwhile, conducted dozens of meetings with Mr. Arafat's group, the last of which led to the agreement to establish Palestinian administration over Gaza and the West Bank town of Jericho.

The State Department's office of counter-terrorism describes the PLO as an umbrella organisation some parts of which support "terrorism"

while others do not. The Israeli-PLO agreement could lead to mutual recogni-

Mr. Christopher said the United States strongly supports the Israeli-PLO agreement, calling it a "conceptual breakthrough." "We strongly support the

agreement," he said. "I be-lieve it's a conceptual break-through... the United States is very pleased by this and looks forward to moving that into In Sanaa, former U.S. Presi-

dent Jimmy Carter called for direct talks between the United States and the PLO. "If the Israelis can talk directly to the PLO, why can't the U.S.?" Mr. Carter asked in a press conference in the Yemeni capital.

The former president, who on Monday met Arafat, called for the United States to give a push to the peace process. "All the parties present at the peace talks want to see the United States give some momentum" to the negotia-

Mr. Carter, broker of the 1979 Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, said Israel's agreement to grant autonomy starting in the Gaza Strip and Jericho was "a significant step."

U.S. Jewish groups wel-comed the Israel-PLO accord. The American Jewish Congress hailed the initiative, saying that if an agreement is reached "it will represent a breakthrough of truly historic proportions."

The group said that the progress shows that Israel recognises that it must make peace with the PLO.

The Anti-Defamation

League said that Israel has "again illustrated its strong commitment to reaching peace with its Palestinian neighbours."

The president of the World Jewish Congress (WJC), based in New York, said Jewish communities around the world must stand by Israel. "Vigorous debate within our

communities on all issues should not preclude our solidarity with Israel at this critical moment," said WJC President Edgar Bronfman. Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of American Hebrew Congregations, said that credit

should go in part to Sandi Arabia for refusing to resume their support of the PLO." A less positive view came from activist Rabbi Avi Weiss, who called on a national re-

'dissolving'

TUNIS (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is "dissolving" and will turn into a provisional Palestinian government, a senior adviser to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat

said Tuesday. Bassam Abu Sharif told AFP that the provisional government, which would see the light of day before the end of this year, would 'build the Palestinian state." He told AFP the PLO "is

"It's to be expected," he added, "because this organisation is only a bridge and not an end in

itself."
"The bridge must now lead to a provisional Palestinian government," he said, adding that the deal struck between Israel and the PLO for autonomy in the Gaza Strip and Jericho would extend to the whole of the occu-

"The government will have its seat in Jericho, will be led by Yasser Arafat himself, and will comprise figures from inside (the occupied territories) and outside," he said.

The provisional government would "prepare the infrastructure of a future Palestinian state," he

Mr. Abu Sharif added that the government would be in urgent need of "technocrats." Israeli Toursim Minister Uri Baram said Israel and the PLO could announce mutual recogni-

tion when they sign the autonomy agreement during Washington peace talks resuming Tuesday. The foreign ministry said its director-general, Uri Savir, was in Europe on government business. The Israeli daily Haaretz said he and PLO officials were hammering out an agreement on mutual recognition.

The Israeli government wants the PLO to recognise the Jewish state's right to exist, to renounce armed struggle and to drop calls for the destruction of Israel from the PLO charter.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Monday before the cabinet approved the autonomy accord:
"We are very close to the moment when the PLO will crase the paragraphs from its charter which call for the destruction of Israel, will totally renounce terrorism and announce it is ready to negotiate with us."

PALESTINIAN LEADER Yasser Arafat Tuesday sought to defend his separate deal with Israel as details emerged of the autonomy plan for the Palesti-nians that has shaken their Arab partners in the Middle East peace

Mr. Arafat, in talks with Egypt's President Hosni Mubar-ak, said Israeli troops would withdraw from the Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jericho within months.

"It is understood that Israeli forces will be completely with-drawn from Gaza and Jericho in the four months' after ratification, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman said in the northern Egyptian resort of Alexandria.

According to a draft of the accord on interim autonomy, (see page 4), it comes into effect one month after signing, expected to take place at the Middle East peace talks resuming in Washington Tuesday.

Asked for his reaction to a threat from Palestinian guerrilla

leader Ahmad Jibril that he could be killed over the self-rule accord, Mr. Arafat said: "Our forum is a democratic forum and we welcome any criticism.' He said: "We started in Madrid on the basis of land for peace. We have now put our feet on the road

to carry out a principled implementation of this." "First we must sign the declaration (of principles) and after the

signing it needs a month to would cover all territory Israel Lebanese port city of Trip approve it and directly after this took in the 1967 Middle East war. month the implementation will begin," Mr. Arafat said.

He did not make clear who would have to approve it. Mr. Mubarak, who called the deal "courageous and brave", said he telephoned Syrian President Hafez Al Assad during the meeting with Mr. Arafat. Mr. Mubarak and Mr. Arafat said

Speaking to reporters late on Monday, Mr. Arafat dismissed suggestions that Syria and Jordan opposed the agreement. This is completely incorrect

that they are not happy with the accord," he said. Mr. Arafat was asked about Israeli demands that the PLO remove from its covenant references to "armed struggle," there-by eliminating the idea of des-

troying Israel.
"What is mentioned in the charter about armed struggle has been superceded by (the) peace talks," he said.

He denied that the PLO's financial crisis pressured him into accepting the plan. He said he even rejected an offer by the United States, Europe, Japan, and Gulf countries of \$590 million to agree to an accord giving the Palestinians early empowerment in the occupied territories. "No one sells a grain of his country's earth for any sum of

money," he said. PLO official Yasser Abed Rabbo said the agreement, hammered out secretly in Norway, wi camps near the northern

"The agreement is not limited to Gaza and Jericho and this should be clarified. The agreement is for an interim arrangement and autonomy in all the occupied territories in the West Bank and in Gaza," Mr. Abed Rabbo, head of the PLO's information department, told reporters.

they would meet Mr. Assad soon. He said "certain arrangements" had been reached on Jerusalem, a crucial and hotly debated issue, but gave no de-

Commenting on warnings by the fundamentalist group Hamas that the occupied territories would descend into civil war, Mr. Araft said: "This is not what will happen. The Palestinian police will take charge of Palestinian

Mr. Mubarak said: "Ahead of us is a gruelling period of negotia-tions but I really salute this decision. These issues need a brave and courageous decision."

Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa travels to Israel on Wednesday for talks with officials there, foreign ministry sources

Strikes in Lebanon

Palestinians staged a general strike and burned tyres in Syriancontrolled refugee camps in north Lebanon Tuesday to protesting the limited self-rule plan. The Nahr Al Bared and Badda-

with barricades of burnilarwa Other staged protest marcing denouncing Mr. Arafat. Mr. Jibril, a former Syrian army captain and longtime rival of Arafat, charged Monday that

civil war in the occupied territor-He warned that Mr. Arafat would be assassinated like Egypt's late President Anwar Sadat if he signs the Gaza-Jericho

the Arafat plan would trigger a

accord. The spokesman for the nearly 400 Palestinian expellees stranded in southeast Lebanon since last December said Israel's objective under the new plan was to "drown the territories in a civil

war bloodbath."
But Gaza physician Abdul Aziz
Rantisi objected to Mr. Jibril's assassination threat, saying his-Hamas movement would strive to prevent a war between rival-

Palestinian camps erupting. "Israel wants from this plan to have Palestinians liquidating each

other," Dr. Rantisi said.
"We in Hamas are not going to allow this to happen. We can thwart the plan by other methods that civil strife and assassina-

European leaders hail Gaza-Jericho plan

BONN (Agencies) — European leaders hailed the proposed peace accord between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Tuesday with Germany calling it "a courageous step" towards ending more than 30 years of hatred and animosity.

"It is important for the future that this courageous first step by Israel and the Palestinians be able to garner mutual approval," German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel said in a communique.

He added that his government was aware that the outline agreement for Palestinian autonomy in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho would need financial backing by the international community and that Germany was ready to increase aid to

In Paris, French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe called the agreement a decisive step in ending the bitter Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

"It is the first time in decades that a real ray of sunshine can be seen in the cloudy skies of the Middle East," he said. "This step is decisive but a lot still needs to be done."

Mr. Juppe had a telephone conversation with his Israeli counterpart Shimon Peres, who informed him of the latest developments, his office said. A spokesman for the Spanish

foreign ministry also welcomed the accord calling it "the most important step" taken since Middle East peace talks opened in Madrid in 1991.

The British government said it Land more likely.

favoured "any progress made by the parties" to the conflict. "This is a positive step," a

He added that "there is much work still to be done," and that "that British government would continue to make every effort to promote progress."

The Vatican, which is negotiating with Israel on diplomatic ties. welcomed the deal between Israel and the PLO and called for a Palestinian homeland and security for the Jewish state.

Experts said the breakthrough on Palestinian self-rule would remove a major obstacle for Vatican recognition of Israel and

it hoped the peace process could advance "on all fronts" and lead spokesman at the Foreign Office "in particular to the much hoped for homeland for the Palestinian people and security for the state of Israel."

One expert who has been closely following the year-old negotiations between the Vaticar and Israel said if the peace talks succeed, Pope John Paul and Israel's president could exchange "personal representatives" by the end of the year.

Japan welcomed as a "Miles tone" the agreement betweer Israel and the PLO.

Japan's Foreign Minister Tsu tomu Hata told a news confer ence; "It will become a milestone make a papal trip to the Holy in the Middle East peace. I hope it will be achieved.

Missile explodes at Iraqi test site; U.N. camera is destroyed

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — An explosion during an Iraqi missile test destroyed one of the cameras that U.N. experts had installed to make sure Baghdad was not developing long-range rockets, a U.N. official said Tuesday.

Monday's explosion occurred while U.N. experts were looking according to the official who requested anonymity. "One of the cameras disappeared. It was bad luck," he added.

United Nations experts earlier this month set up six cameras at Yawn Al Azim and Al Rafah. two missile testing sites south of Baghdad, following a week-long standoff with Iraqi authorities. The official did not say where

the blast occurred. The cameras were to be activated following talks on Iraqi disarmament which the United Nations and Iraq were to begin in

New York Tuesday.

A three-member U.N. team that has been in Iraq since Wednesday was only 50 metres from the site of the explosion which occurred during "the test of a missile engine," the U.N. official said.

The team continued its mission despite the incident and visited one of the two sites earlier Tuesdav, be said.

On Monday, the television station owned by President Saddam Hussein's eldest son Uday broadcast pictures of the different stages of the test as well as the explosion — the first time Iraqi viewes were able to watch a

"Such an explosion is normal and happens often," in this kind of test, the television commenta-

The U.N. team headed by Guy Martelle of the United States is charged with monitoring tests of missiles which have a range of less than 150 kilometres, as allowed under U.N. resolutions ending the 1991 Gulf war.

Iraqi officials said they had no overall estimate of damage or whether there were injuries in Monday's blast. An official said the explosion

led to "a lot of damage in the missile test facility and destroyed one of the cameras... U.N. talks open

Talks opened at the United Nations Tuesday on long-term monitoring of Iraq's weapons potential. The talks are expected to continue until Sept. 9 and then resume in Baghdad at some fu-ture date, a U.N. official said.

The 15-member Iraqi team is led by General Amir Rasheed. director of Baghdad's Military Industrialisation Authority, who has cabinet rank.

Rolf Ekeus, Executive chairman of the U.N. special commission responsible for scrapping Iraq's weapons of mass destruc-tion, will head the U.N. negotiat-

Arriving at U.N. headquarters for a preliminary meeting on Monday, Gen. Rasheed smiled and waved to reporters, saying: We come with the full intention to resolve outstanding issues on monitoring and... other things. We come in good high spirits.'

Rabin's approach to peace is full of stunts and surprises

TEL AVIV (R) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said his government wouldn't talk to the PLO.

He said a peace accord was possible only with the help of the United States. He was wrong.
Since taking office 13 months
ago he had kept Foreign Minister
Shimon Peres, his longtime rival,

far from the negotiations limelight. This time Mr. Peres was in the thick of it. In a matter of weeks Mr. Rabin's path to a Middle East

peace breakthrough took one swift and surprising turn after another. What will he do next? Officially recognise the PLO? Allow PLO leader Yasser Arafat to

make his home in Jericho? His actions so far have drawn a swift response in Israel. Backers praise the 71-year-old

soldier-turned-politician for bold leadership. Critics accuse him of breaking every important promise he ever made.

For years Israel banned talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation, branding it a "terrorist" group bent on destroying the Jewish state. After Rabin came to power,

Israel softened the ban, allowing private unofficial contacts with the Tunis-based organisation. Official contacts remained off limits — until July.

Then in Cairo, Environment Minister Yossi Sarid, a darling of the Israeli left, met Nabil Shaath, an aide to Mr. Arafat, he did it with Mr. Rabin's approval. Mr. Rabin's spokesman

fended the meeting as a "con-tact" and not "negotiations." Any settlement, the spokesman would be ironed out only with Palestinians from the occupied territories at peace talks in

Within days he was proven wrong. On Aug. 20, Mr. Peres secretly met a PLO official in

On Monday Mr. Rabin told backers it was those understandings achieved in Oslo that clinched agreement on general principles for Palestinian self-rule in the occupied territories.

The agreement was reached not only in secret but without the involvement even of the official negotiators to the 22-month-old peace talks. Israel's chief peace negotiator Eliyakim Rubinstein threatened to quit for being kept

out of the picture.

Also far from centre stage was the United States, Israel's closest ally and the chief broker in Israel's peace talks, launched in Madrid in October 1991, with Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and the

For months Mr. Rabin said history had shown Washington's involvement was essential to forging Arab-Israeli peace.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher promised to help bridge the many gaps between the Israeli and Palestinian positions. But that was after the fact.
He got word of the agreement only second hand.

Lacking a dialogue with the PLO, Washington forfeited centre stage to Norway, a self-styled



Yitzhak Rabin

honest broker in world affairs with a particular interest in the

Only after agreement was reached, Peres and Norwegian Foreign Minister Johan Joergen Holst flew to California to inform Mr. Christopher of the details. It was a coup for Mr. Peres, a

70-year-old career politician and a master of secret diplomacy who met Morocco's King Hassan in But for longtime observers of the Israeli political front, what was most remarkable was that

Mr. Rabin allowed Mr. Peres so prominent a role. So deep was their distrust perceived to be that Mr. Rabin once berated Mr. Peres as an "inde-

fatigable schemer When Mr. Rabin led their Labour Party to victory in June 1992, he gave himself the task of

managing Israel's headline-grab-bing direct talks with the Arabs. He assigned Mr. Peres the role of overseeing multi-national negotiations on such issues as economic development, arms control and the environment.

Yet on Monday when the two political warriors faced suppor-ters, they stood together. Mr. Rabin praised Mr. Peres for his efforts. He spoke of their part-

lems in Somalia.

mission creep.

"Even if you get (Aideed),

there are going to be other problems," Mr. Haass agreed.

Somalia cannot be fixed by

getting rid of Aideed or some

Experts said that Mr. Aspin

had really outlined a program-

me to keep troops in Somalia,

not get them out — a step

Mr. Clinton stressed after

Monday's raid that the United

States was only following U.N.

policy in Somalia and

Washington was trying to "ful-fill our original mission" of

making sure food and other aid reached Somalis.

"We have tried to be coop-

erative with the policies that have been jointly developed," he said. "We have not been

just simply driving this. We

have really tried to work within

the framework of the U.N. to

prove that this thing can work

In an interview published on

Monday in the Paris-based

ly tackle in the future," he

over the long run.

Norway mediators helped break ice

OSLO (R) — The five Norwegians who secretly mediated between Israelis and Palestinians this year created a relaxed family atmosphere that helped break the ce between foes, officials said on Tuesday.

Foreign Minister Johan

Mr. Heiberg's boss at FAFO, Terje Roed-Larsen,

An Israeli revenge bom-

The only one of the five Norwegian insiders not married to another was Jan Egeforeign ministry. The negotiators and the five Norwegians met in secret locations around southern Norway from the start of the year.

criticised in Norway - a country with no aristocracy but where a tiny intellectual elite seems to have a disprop-But officials say family ties

Foreign ministry spokes-

African magazine Jeune Afrique Economie, Mr. Carter criticised the policing role of U.S. troops in Somalia. of the Mideast, not beca "The United States should be on the front line to solve Africa's problems," the former president said, suggesting that

military force was not the "Lightening the continent's debt burden, launching health, education and democratisation programmes, solving conflicts are beautiful missions that the United States must imperative-

Joergen Holst said late Monday that Norway had hosted 14 secret meetings this year, some at his home and in a farmhouse, between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on a deal paving the way for Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"It gives a very special atmosphere when one meets two couples at home. I'm convinced that this had a very big and positive influence for the talks," Mr. Holst told the daily Verdens Gang on Tues-

day. Mr. Holst is married to Marianne Heiberg, a resear-cher at Norway's FAFO, the institute for applied social science, who took part in the taiks.

is married to Mona Juul, a senior foreign ministry offi-cial — forming the other Norwegian couple taking part in the talks.

Mr. Holst said negotiations had often seemed close to collapse but were helped by close relationships built up between the Israeli and PLO participants — whom he refused to name.

bardment of South Lebanon in July barely affected the tone of the talks, he told

FAFO ran a study of living conditions for Palestinians in the occupied territories from the late 1980s. The study helped build up Norway's contacts with the PLO and Israel and led to sequest by both sides in secret talks in

Such "dynasties" are often

ortionate share of power. between prominent Norwegians may be inevitable in a nation of just 4.3 million peo-

man Ingvard Havnen said the family ties between the Norwegian mediators in the peace talks was a happy coincidence.

"The participants were chosen because of their special abilities and knowledge they were related," he said. Norway has long seen itself as an honest broker in world affairs.

In another family twist, the wife of former Foreign Minister Thorvald Stoltenberg, Karin Stoltenberg, is the sister of Mr. Holst's wife. Mr. Stoltenberg became

U.N. peace mediator in former Yugoslavia from April, handing over as foreign minister to Mr. Holst.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Gunmen attack U.S. troop compound in Kuwai

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) - Gunnen raked a U.S. military compound with machine gun fire as soldiers slept, in the first such attack since a U.S.-led coalition liberated Kuwzit in 1991, the Kuwaiti press reported Tuesday. The assailants sparked fires and broke windows but caused no casualties when they attacked the building southeast of Kuwait City at dawn Monday, newspapers said. Photographs showed walls riddled with bullets and other damage. The Kuwaiti Minister of Interior and the U.S. embasy refused to comment on the incident. Walt Clark, a U.S. soldi living in the brilding, told Al Anbaa newspaper that he had seen a bearded man in a car opposite the building who disappeared after the attack. Some 200 U.S. soldiers are based permanently in Knwait where they take care of military equipment kept under a defence accord concluded after the emirate's liberation from Iraqi occupation in February 1991.

Arson seen in blaze at Algerian oil firm

ALGIERS (AFP) - An overnight fire which destroyed part of the Algerian state oil company's piping factory near here was due to arson, security officials said on Tuesday. The blaze at Baraki burned down the administrative offices, a chemicals storehouse and the company dining-hall. Another pre-dawn fire at Rida 50 kilometres from the capital swept through a municipal depot and destroyed 17 coaches and three trucks. The security authorities also disclosed that on Sunday night arsonists razed a shoe factory. One of the night watchmen recounted how about 50 armed and m men burst in and made the guards kneel against the walls with their hands in the air before setting fire to the plant. Security officials said that in separate attacks by armed gangs on Sunday, five civilians were killed, in villages near Algiers and in western

Greece takes in 35 stranded Iragis

ANKARA (R) — Greece has taken in 35 Iraqi asylum-section who were stranded at sea after Turkey refused to accept them, a Greek diplomat said Tuesday. "We took them to Greece on Siturday might," the diplomat said. "They were on hunger strike and we couldn't just leave them in the middle of the sea." He said the Greek authorities would contact the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) about what to do with them. Greece deported the 35 Iraqis from the Aegean Sea island of Chios on Thursday after rejecting their asylum requests and put them on bout for Turkey, from where they were said to have come. Turkish coastguards refused to let the boat carrying the Iraqis into Turkish territorial waters.

Iran police seize Australian embassy liquor

CANBERRA (R) — Iranian police have seized a consignment of goods including 250 cases of alcohol from the Australian embassy in Tehran, the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs said Tuesday. A department spokesman said the consignment of imported beer, wine and spirits was being unloaded outside the embassy when it was seized. "We haven't been given any reason and we're discussing it with Iranian authorities," he said. The Resalat newspaper in Iran quoted Tehran police chief General Abdullah Oqbaei on Monday as saying the alcohol had arrived in Iran via the Gulf port of Bandar Abbas. Alcoholic beverages are banned under Iran's Islamic laws but most foreign emba diplomatic privilege to import liquor for their staff. "Iranian authorities are aware that it's a long-standing practice, but from time to time they do single out embassies," the spokesman said.

Switzerland recalls Ankara envoy

BERNE (R) - Switzerland said Tuesday it was recalling it ambassador and two other embassy employees from Ankara, in line with a demand from Turkey and only under protest. The two countries have been locked in a diplomatic row since June over the ahooting of 29-year-old Kurdish demonstrator Se outside Turkey's embassy in Berne. Turkey had demanded the recall of the Swiss diplomats last week in reprisal for Berne's demand for the lifting of the diplomatic immunity of the Turkish ambassador. "The federal council has decided to recall from Ankara the Swiss Ambassador Paul-Andre Ramseyer and the two embassy staff members Heinrich Maurer and Jean-Pierre Baumeyer," a Swiss foreign ministry statement said. But it added: The federal council once more underlines its protest against Turkey's unjustified demand for the recall of the ambassador and

State of the

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Libyan throws lifeline to Scottish miners

EDINBERG (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has throws £5 million (\$7.5 million) lifeline to a Scottish miners' cooperative threatened with closure, local media reported Tuesday. Former Labour Member of Parliament Ron Brown said Libya agreed last week to invest the money to save Monktonhall colliery from closure. "They know in Scotland that there is a different attitude politically and they hope no doubt to win friends through their connections," Mr. Brown told the Scotsman newspaper. "They know workers should be partners and not wage earners." He said he had been to Tripoli, the Libyan capital, with Jackie Aitchison, chairman of the miners cooperative. The deal would enable Libya to invest in the Monktonhall pit without taking control.

Iran police impose tough rules on weddings

TEHRAN (AFP) — Police have imposed tough regulations on weddings in the southern Iranian city of Shiraz in a bid to maintain Islamic standards, Salam newspaper reported Monday. It said police in the ancient city had issued a statement banning a range of activities traditionally associated with wedding ceremonies in Iran. As part of the new measures, all printing houses have to submit a copy of wedding invitations and keep police informed of the ceremonies, the statement said. Restaurants and banquet houses reserved for wedding ceremonies are to notify the police 24 hours before the event and to ban music and dancing on the premises. Music and dancing will also be forbidden during wedding parades through the streets, and permits need to be issued for

Pressure mounts in Washington on Somalia policy done and, in any case, would By Charles Aldinger who arrived in Mogadishu only not solve the long-term problast week.

Renter

WASHINGTON — Monday's raid in Mogadishu by elite U.S. troops who captured only innocent international aid workers has increased pressure on the Clinton administration to clarify American policy in

Experts say the latest failure over 24,000 soldiers to strike effectively at fugitive warlord Mohammad Farah Aideed reflects the difficulty of a quick military solution to anarchy in hat country.

Former U.S. President Jim-1y Carter, in a magazine interew published this week, aced his White House succesof ignoring problems in for too long and for elated attempts to fix .tary club.

Despite president Bill Clinton's personal defence of joint U.N. and U.S. policy in Somalia after Monday's raid, analysts warned that Washington may be stumbling towards a long military presence by expanding policy from huma-nitarian aid to capturing Aideed

and rebuilding the country. "This has gone a long way from a simple humanitarian mission to deliver food," said Richard Haass, a former member of the National Security Council staff and now with the private Carnegie Endowment in Washington.

"We are talking about na-

tion-building. We are talking

sistance," Mr. Haass said in an

NBC television network inter-

view after the helicopter raid

by elite U.S. Army Rangers,

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The raid was based on intelligence reports that at least some of General Aideed's top licutenants might be in a build-ing. The building proved emp-ty and the troops, sliding down ropes from helicopters, briefly detained nine international aid workers and Somali U.N.

It was a highly visible mis-take and will only add to questions about U.S. policy in Somalia — questions likely to be taken up in earnest when Congress returns from its summer recess next week.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Defence Secretary Les Aspin last week said U.S. forces must stay in the country until security was restored in Mogadishu, progress was made in disarming warlords and police were in control in major

Tom McNaugher of the private Brookings Institution and other analysts said initial international expectations were high that a U.N. military force could quickly solve Somalia's problems — but those hopes were plunging.

There are nearly 5,000 U.S. troops in Somalia, including some 400 newly arrived Rangers, helping provide com-munications and security for the U.N. humanitarian opera-

While that is a small part of



U.N. German soldiers collect the U.S.grenades and explosives

military officials are deeply involved in running the military

Mr. McNaugher noted the ability of U.N. troops to carry out an arrest warrant for Gen.



the total U.N. force, U.S.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

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INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Princess Basses Hospital

Queen stresses specificity of rural women's needs

ty Queen Noor met today (Tuesday) at Al-Ma'wa Palace with a group of professionals and specialists representing va-rious Jordanian institutions and United Nations organisa-tions working in the field of women and rural development to discuss means of implementing the Geneva Declaration for the advancement of Rural Women in Jordan.

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Queen Noor stressed the importance of dealing with women's issues and development priorities as part of the family and the community, while at the same time emphasising the specificity of rural women's needs and gender dis-

During the meeting, Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) President, In'am Musti briefed the group on the specific peeds of Jordanian women.

An extensive discussion took place regarding the mechanism through which all involved institutions in Jordan can best coordinate and work together to improve the quality of life of

Today's meeting is one of the follow-up activities which the Queen is undertaking in her capacity as member of the International Follow-up Steering Committee (ISC), which was formed following the 1992 International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Summit on the Economic Advancement of Rural Women with the purpose of

monitoring and evaluating

mechanisms for the imple-

mentation of the summit's

Geneva Declaration. A series of meetings and workshops will be held under the Queen's patronage to formulate a comprehensive. strategy for the advancemen of rural women that will be coordinated with and integrated within the Higher National Women's Commis-

sion's Strategy for Women. In order to be able to work scientifically on formulating a strategy for rural women,

establishing an updated data base which would include information and statistics pertaining to the situation of development work in rural areas as well as to that of women in

The meeting concluded by forming three working com-

The first as a technical committee charged with collecting relevant information pertaining to development projects in rural areas specifically those targetting rural women.

The second committee was signed the task of organising the collection of data from rural women regarding their development needs and priorities, and formulating ideas and plans on how best to address those needs as well as evaluating previous initiatives and ogrammes implemented in rural areas for the purpose of strategising for future work.
The third committee will

study and propose options for plans of action regarding the empowerment of rural women.

Majali says government will act to promote exports

UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN LIBRARY SERIALS No.

and issue laws that would promote Jordan's exports said Prime will no doubt result in developing Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali.

These measures include the creation of an institution for instrengthening trade relations with sister Arab countries, facilitating customs procedures, expanding the free zones and improving the process of loading and unloading and storing goods at port, said Dr. Majali in an address delivered on his behalf by Jawad Al

ministry affairs. But all these steps regrettably cannot be accomplished with speed; although the government is determined to adopt them in its economic policies, from which there will be no turning back, said

the prime minister. Addressing a group of businessmen representing the commercial sector in Jordan, the premier said "we are pursuing the road of liberating the economy and prices and reducing trade formalities to a minimum. At the same time, we are raising the efficiency of the public adminis-

"No doubt you are aware of the steps taken by the government to grant more authority to provincial governors. This move is aimed at promoting the various governorates to take their share

By a Jordan Times

Staff Reports

AMMAN — Health Minister Abdul Rahim Malhas Tuesday

denied that the cases of fever in

the Ajloun area recently were

Press reports had said that 12

cases of typhoid had appeared in

the Ailoun area two days ago,

raising the number to 17 Tues-day, but these were all cases of

high fever, said the minister in a

Dr. Malhas said that the pa-

tients now under treatment at the

ent to the Jordan Times.

AMMAN (Petra) — The governing stimulating the economy in ment will take several measures Jordan," said Dr. Majali.

The decentralisation policies the administrative system at a lesser cost, added the premier.

Noting that there was urgent suring exports, granting further need for adjusting and rectifying exemptions to export industries, the relationship between the taxa-setting up specialised trade fairs, tion system and government extion system and government expenditures, the prime minster said tax collection is meagre compared with tax averages required under the Income Tax Law.

Dr. Majali said the income tax system does not provide a just and fair ground for the implementation of the law.

Anani, minister of state for prime The government plans to revise the existing Customs Law with a view to reducing the procedures and removing conflicting points contained in the law, noted the

"It is true that the successive governments had introduced improvements to the present customs law but we still believe that this law is in need of reexamination because customs duty constitutes the main income for the state," Dr. Majali ex-

Referring to the controversial Sales Tax Law which has not yet been applied, the prime minister said numerous studies have been prepared, all of them proving that the projected law was fairer than the existing law imposed on con-

sumption.
"I do realise that the application of the sales tax law would be

Jordan is free of cholera, despite

the spread of diseases in several

He said, however, the ministry is conducting a wide-spread campaign to ensure that water sup-

olies. water trucks and vegetables

and fruits are uncontaminated.

care be taken by households

when washing vegetables and

Also Tuesday, the Ministry of

Health announced the closure of

37 bakeries and the fining of 190

others because they violated

health safety regulations and

The minister advised that extra



Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs Jawad Al Anani Tuesday addresses commercial businessmen (Petra photo)

facing difficulties, and I am in need of your cooperation here,"

Dr. Majali said. The prime minister said the overnment believes that the relationship between the private and public sectors should based on mutual confidence so that each sector can play its role in

serving the national economy.
"What we hope to see, he added, is a kind of growing trade in Jordan, capable of providing commodities with efficiency and competitiveness, benefiting the

consumers, and at the same time, enabling the merchants to make reasonable profits."

But, he added, free trade should be also be free of monopoly, deception and manipulation and other unorthodox dealings unacceptable to any society. He said, "we want the local

commercial sector to be more. organised and reformed." Several merchants spoke during a dialogue later, outlining the various problems that impede the

work of the commercial sector in

They demanded a revision of the existing customs law and the duty on several commodities. They also demanded that the government reconsider its decision to transfer the Ramtha border customs centre to Jaber cen-

Jordan.

tre and grant the free zones in Zarqa and Aqaba wider powers. Concerning the sales tax law, the merchants said that it should only be applied within the



HIS MAJESTY KING HUSSEIN Trenday attends a graduation ceremony in which His Royal High-ness Prince Hannach Ben Al Hussein and other HIS MAJESTY KING HUSSEIN Trendsy attends a graduation ceremony in which His Royal Highness Prince Hassesh Ben Al Hussein and other
youngsters were awarded for successfully completing a training course at use of army's special forces
units. Accompanied by Her Majesty Oueen Near.

Their Royal Highnesses Prince Abdullah, Princess
Ramin Abdullah, Prince Hasham, Princess

King Hussein watched training exercise including Prince Talal Ben Mohammad, the Kiphysical fitness exercises, mountain climbing, secretary, and senior army officers. and, the King's military

failed to follow instructions set by Iman Government Hospital in the health authorities concerning Ajloun are being monitored, and culture samples are being taken hygiene. Of those bakeries closed and fined, nine in Amman. The rest were in Jerash, Zanga, Irbid, to determine whether the individuals are suffering from Agaba, Karak the northerir forat an army of the de-The minister also stressed that dan Valley, Madaba, and Kouta.

British envoy retires,

Minister says typhoid reports

are only high fever cases

lauding Jordan's stands AMMAN (Petra) - British Ambassador to Jordan Patrick Eyers Tuesday praised Jordan's role at the regional forum and voiced hope that "the next round of bilateral negotiations will lead to an important step towards the

comprehensive and just peace which the region so badly needs."

In a statement Mr. Eyers made on the occasion of the end of his tour of duty in Jordan, the British envoy said there are likely to be new and encouraging develop-

ments in the region very soon. He lauded Jordan's efforts and ability to transcend the crisis resulting from the Gulf war.

When I arrived here in April 1991, I found Jordan emerging from a critical period," he said.

On Jordan's differences with Great Britain during the Gulf war, Mr. Eyers said "the perceived differences in Jordanian British relations at the time of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and during the war had also tested our relations.

However, he said, the two sides sought to overcome these differences "It was clear from the start of

my time here that you and we were keen to put these differences behind us," he said.

He expressed appreciation for the warm welcome he and his wife received in Jordan, and said he was lucky to have Amman as his last diplomatic post before

Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali Tuesday meets with Lebanese Minister of Agricul-

Jordan to provide Lebanon with assistance — Majali

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali Tuesday said Jordan was ready to offer assistance and medicine to the people of southern Lebanon victimized by repeated Israeli aggressions into the area. He added that the Kingdom would also provide them with cement to help them reconstruct de-

molished homes. The prime minister, who was speaking at a meeting with visit-ing Lebanese Minister of Agriculture Adel Qirtas, said Jordanian

continue their higher education. eration in various field.

Discussion during the meeting covered means of facilitating the exchange of agricultural products between Jordan and Lebanon and other related matters in implementation of an existing trade regreement between the two coun-

Dr. Majali was quoted as expressing his satisfation with the state of relations between Jordan

universities would also offer and Lebanon and efforts being Lebanese students scholarships to—made to promote bilateral coop

Agriculture Minister Marwa Kamal, Director of the Agricultural Marketing Organisation (AMO) Salem Al Lawzi and Ahmad Ibrahim, Lebanon's ambassador to Jordan, were present at the meeting with the

Dr. Qirtas, who arrived in Amman Monday, was due to leave for home Wednesday.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Royal decree endorses Cabinet said that since its establishment, the bank has decision on postings

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Royal Decree was issued Tuesday endorsing several decisions taken by the Council of Ministers last week. According to the decree, the following changes are effective as of today Sept. I, 1993: — Khaled Mahadeen, the director general of the Jordan News Agency, Petra, will become an advisor at the prime ministry, and retain the same rank and salary. -Mohammad Amin Sagaf Al Hait will become Director General of the Department of Press and Publications, succeeding Issa Jahmani, who was retired. — Abdullah Utoum, a senior official at Petra, has been promoted to Director General of the News Agency. - Mr. Mahadeen held the post of director general of the Ministry of Information Jordan News Agency for 13 months. Prior to his period at Petra, Mr. Mahadeen was Director of the Royal Court Press Office.

Prince Mohammad condoles Qatarneh family

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Mohamand, the personal representative of His Majesty King Hussein, delegated the Amman Police Director to convey his condolences to the Qatameh, family on the death of Mufleh Al Qatameh, father of Balqa Governor Eid Al

Cabinet endorses SSC pension raise

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet Tuesday endorsed the recommendation made by the Social Security Corporation (SSC) to increase the minimum pension and the permanent disability allowance from JD 40 to JD 50 and is retroactive from July 1. SSC Director-General Mohammad Saleh Housani said that about 9,000 pensioners will benefit from this increase, in addition to any pensioner, whose salary is less than JD 50. Theincrease will be paid by the end of September.

Senate speaker meets with Australian envoy

AMMAN (Petra) - Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi Tuesday reviewed with the Australian ambassador in Amman bilateral relations and convening the International Par-hamentary Union (IPU's) 90th session on Sept. 12.

Bankgrants JD 130m in loans

contributed to the economic development of the country. He pointed out that 80 to 90 per cent of the urban and rural roads were constructed through loans to local contractors. He added that the average annual loans granted by the bank range between JD 7 million and 8 million. Referring to the bank finances, Dr. Khalifah said the sources of the finances are internal and external. through loans from international financial institu-

Human rights group to meet

AMMAN (Petra) - The Arab Centre for Studies on Freedom, Democracy and Human Rights will meet today (Wednesday) to discuss a draft proposal prepared by a mini committee.

Workshop on Incomegenerating project opens

AMMAN (Petra) - A workshop designed to encourage women to create income-generating projects was opened at the Nuzha Community Centre which is run by the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund (QAF). The three-day workshop, organised in cooperation with voluntary organisations is being attended by 30 women representing various unions in the rural and urban regions of Jordan as well as representatives of QAF's Community Centres. The workshop's aim is to encourage women to increase their families income as well as improve the national socioeconomic development process in Jordan, said a QAF statement. The statement noted that the workshop was organised in response to increasing requests by women unions for information and training on launching and managing incomegenerating projects.

investment, government policy are topics of seminar

AMMAN (J.T.) — A seminar entitled the Role of Jordan's Financial Policies in Encouraging Investments in the Country" organised by the Jordanian sinessmens' Association (JBA) will be held Sept. 9 at the Amman Mariott Hotel. A statement Tuesday said that Minister of Finance Sami Gammo will address the seminar and outline the overnment's financial policy towards investments. The 300 JBA members who will attend the seminar represent the commercial, industrial, agricultural, banking, contractor, transport, tourism and insurance sectors, according to JBA statement. Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali was the guest of a AMMAN (Petra) — The Cities and Villages Development Bank (CVDB) has granted JD 130 million in ions to finance various projects throughout the country, according to the Bank Director Editor Khalifah. Addressing a meeting of the Author Robert Chair Rober

WHAT'S GOING ON

EXHIBITIONS

- Art exhibition by Iraqi artist Shaker Al Shadi at Alia Art Gallery.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by 25 Jordanian artists at the Housing Bank Complex exhibition hall.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Jordanian artist Bishara Najjar at Kahbelia Art Gallery, Amra Shopping Centre. The paintings depict Jordanian-Palestinian heritage, Jordanian antiquities, Arab Jerusalem, rural life and natural scenery.
- * New art gallery, "Darat Al Funun," of the Abdul Majeed Shoman Foundation. Programme includes the permanent exhibition and the "Chair" exhibition in Jabal Luweibdeh. * Exhibition entitled "Reflections and Colours" by artist Zeinab
- Abbas Mehdi at the Royal Cultural Centre. ☆ Exhibition by Syrian artist Nadhir Isma'il at Baladna Art Gallery.

SHOWS

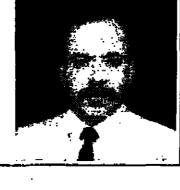
☆ "The Eternal Torch," a variety of Circussian dances performances by Al-Jeel Al-Jadeed Club at the club's premises in the Seventh Circle.

FILM

☆ Film entitled "Room With a View" at the British Council at

Gulf Air opens 3 new routes

Mohammad Abdul Rahman Zainal has announced the opening of three new routes to Jakarta, Zangibar and Casablanca in a drive by Gulf Air to expand and develop its network and serve its passengers. Mr. Zainal also said that Gulf Air will continue to operate daily flights to the Gulf aboard modern Airbus A-320



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Securing plus before the act

ONE PARTICULARLY significant feature of the Israeli-PLO agreement that is about to be signed in Washington is the article that talks about the return of tens of thousands of Palestinians who were "displaced" by the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. There are some 57,000 such Palestinians whose future will be determined by that accord.

From a strictly international law point of view, the repatriation of all Palestinians who were driven away from their homes whether in 1967 or in the period that preceded it should be allowed a safe return. The 1949 Geneva Convention relative to occupied territories

makes this point crystal clear. Over and above the Palestinian exodus of 1967, there are hundreds of thousands of Palestinians who were forced to leave their country during the 1947-48 armed conflicts between Israel and the Arab side. The rights of all these Palestinian refugees to go back to their homeland must remain an integral feature of any Israeli-Palestinian settlement.

In order to make this both feasible and practicable. the economy of liberated Palestinian territories needs speedy and effective financial transfusions. Otherwise, not only would the Palestinian expellees or refugees opt to stay where they are now, mainly in Jordan, but other Palestinians living in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank may be tempted to cross into Jordan in search of employment or business opportunities and end up taxing even further the limited resources of the

country. This dimension of the problem requires tripartite negotiations encompassing Jordan, Israel and the Palestinian side. The 11th round of bilateral peacetalks currently in session in Washington must target this aspect head on instead of leaving it to the multilateral talks.

The actual implementation of the Gaza-Jericho first accord would, as stipulated require months. The time factor involved can and should be invested in the search for solutions to the economic dimension of the peace equation. There is already talk about direct European or U.S. investment in several macroeconomic projects in "Palestinian territories," and judging by their reported size, there is obviously a keen international interest to prop up the devastated Palestinian economy. On their own neither Gaza Strip nor the entire West Bank. East Jerusalem included. might be viable economically. That is why every effort should be exerted to help the budding Palestinian economy survive the test. This is where perhaps the role of Jordan will become most evident.

The Kingdom is an indispensable party to any solution between the Palestinians and Israel. Egypt is effectively separated from even the Gaza Strip by the Sinai desert, a formidable arid territory that impedes close contact. Syria is likewise geographically isolated from "Palestine" and there is therefore no vision for any direct Palestinian-Syrian trade or commerce. This leaves Jordan as the closest and most appropriate partner of a future Palestinian state. In order for the Jordanians and the Palestinians to perform their mutually enforcing and complementary roles, there must be effective and continuous coordination between them. based on confidence and unity of purpose. Such coordination cannot wait until after the Palestinians and Israelis have worked out things between them. Jordan has to be in the picture every step of the way. Its active engagement in the process, as it unfolds everyday, can only be a big plus in its eventual success.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

IN REFERENCE to the Israeli-Palestinian agreeement on the "Gaza-Jericho first" option, Al Ra'l Arabic daily said that the Israelis, through deceitful means, were successful in breaching the United Arab ranks and destroying their united stand at the peace negotiations. The bilateral deal was another hand blow not only to inter-Arab relations and solidarity, but also to the rights of the Arabs in the occupied Arab lands since the agreement does not provide for a comprehensive settlement for the Arab-Israeli conflict, said the daily. Whether we like it or not, the big error and the grave blunder has occurred and it is regrettable to say that one Arab party to the peace talks with Israel has chosen to go a separate path, away from the Arab consensus, paving the ground for further disarray in Arab ranks, continued the paper. It said that this blunder is bound to cause catastrophic consequences, detrimented to the Arab cause and harmful to national interests. The Arabs have been announcing time and again that they were united in their stand and that unless progress has been achieved on all tracks no settlement can be achieved between the Arabs and the Israelis; but the new deal has destroyed this rhythm and left the Arab parties in dissarray, the paper added.

AL DUSTOUR daily said that Jordan has always supported the Palestinian: in their struggle to attain freedom and regain the usurped Arab lands, and this time, and in view of the Israeli-Palestinian deal, Jordan can only voice its support to the free Palestinian will and can only back PLO decisions. The paper said the coming . Ith round of talks is bound to disclose details of the new deal between Israel and Palestine and the agreement is a very important move although opposed by many sides. It is clear now that what he was a self-in secret Israeli-Palestinian talks is far greater t. ... the 22 months of open negotiations in Washingsias. the paper added.

Declaration of principles on interim self-government arrangements

Following is the Aug. 19, 1993, full, official text of the draft declaration of principles on Palestinian interim self-government arrangements in the occupied territories. The historic document, agreed between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation, is expected to be signed at the 11th round of Middle East peace talks which opened yesterday in Washington for two weeks. Agence France-Presse obtained the text via the Yediot Aharanot

The government of the State of Israel and the Palestinian team (in the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to the Middle East peace conference) ("the Palestinian-Delegation"), representing the Palestinian people, agree that it is time to put an end to decades of confrontation and conflict, recognise their mutual legitimate and political rights, and strive to live in peaceful co-existence, and mutual dignity and security and achieve a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement and historic reconciliation through the agreed political process. Accordingly, the two sides agree to the following principles:

Article I: Aim of the negotiations The aim of the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations within the current Middle East peace process is, among other things, to establish a Palestinian interim self-government authority, the elected council, (the "Council") for the Palestinian people in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, for a transitional period not exceeding five years, leading to a permanent settlement based on

Security Council Resolution 242 and 338. It is understood the interim arrangements are an integral part of the whole peace process and that the negotiations on the permanent status will lead to the implementation of security council Resolution 242 and 338.

Article II: Framework for the interim period The agreed framework for the interim period is set forth in this

declaration of principles. Article III: Elections

1. In order that the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip may govern themselves according to democratic principles, direct, free and general political elections will be held for the Council, under agreed supervision and under international observation, while the Palestinian police will ensure public order.

2. An agreement will be concluded on the exact mode and

conditions of the elections in accordance with the protocol attached as Annex I, with the goal of holding elections not later than nine months after the entry into force of this declaration of principles. 3. These elections will constitute a significant interim preparatory step towards the realisation of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and their just requirements.

Article IV: Jurisdiction Jurisdiction of the Council will cover West Bank and the Gaza Strip territory, except for issues that will be negotiated in the nanent status negotiations. The two sides view the West Bank and Gaza Strip as a single territorial unit whose integrity will be preserved during the interim period.

Article V: Transitional period and permanent status regotia-1. The five-year transitional period will begin upon the

withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and Jericho area. 2. Permanent status negotiations will commence as soon as possible, but not later than the beginning of the third year of the nterim period, between the government of Israel and the

Palestinian people representatives. 3. It is understood that these negotiations shall cover remaining issues, including: Jerusalem, refugees, settlements, security arrangements, borders, relations and cooperation with other

neighbours, and other issues of common interest.

4. The two parties agree that the outcome of the permanent status negotiations should not be prejudiced or preempted by agreements reached for the interim period.

Article VI: Preparatory transfer of powers and responsibilities

1. Upon the entry into force of this declaration of principles and the withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area, a transfer of authority from the Israel military government and its civil administration to the authorised Palestinians for this task, as detailed herein, will commence. This transfer of authority will be

of preparatory nature until the manguration of the Council. 2. Immediately after the entry into force of this declaration of principles and the withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and Jericho area, with the view to promoting economic development in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, authority will be transferred to the Palestinians on the following spheres: education and culture, health; social welfare, direct taxation, and tourism. The Palestinian side will commence in building the Palestinian police force, as agreed upon. Pending the inauguration of the Council, the two parties may negotiate the transfer of additional powers and responsibilities, as agreed upon.

1. The Israeli and Palestinian delegations will negotiate an agreement on the interim period (the "interim agreement").

2. The interim agreement shall. specify, among other things, the structure of the Council, the number of its members, and the transfer of powers and responsibilities from the Israeli military government and its civil administration to the council. The interim agreement shall also specify the Council's executive authority, legislative authority in accordance with Article IX below, and the independent Palestinian judicial organs.

3. The interim agreement shall include arrangements, to be

Article VII:

implemented upon the inauguration of the Council, for the assumption by the Council of all the powers and responsibilities transferred previously in accordance with Article VI above. 4. In order to enable the Council to promote economic growth, upon its inauguration, the Council will establish, among other things, a Palestinian development authority, a Gaza sea port authority, a Palestinian development bank, a Palestinian export promotion board, a Palestinian environmental authority, a Palestinian land authority and a Palestinian water administration

with the interim agreement that will specify their powers and After the inauguration of the Council, the civil administration will be dissolved, and the Israeli military government will be

authority, and any other authorities agreed upon, in accordance

Article VIII: Public order and security

In order to guarantee public order and internal security for the Palestinians of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, the Council will establish a strong police force, while Israel will continue to carry the responsibility for defending against external threats, as well as the responsibility for overall security of Israelis for the purpose of safeguarding their internal security and public order.

Article IX: Laws and military orders

1. The Council will be empowered to legislate, in accordance with the interim agreement, within all authorities transfered to it. 2. Both parties will review jointly laws and military orders presently in force in remaining spheres.

Article X: Joint Israel-Palestinian Baison co In order to provide for a smooth implementation of this declaration of principles and any subsequent agreements pertaining to the interim period, upon the entry into force of this declaration of principles, a joint Israel-Palestinian liaison committee will be established in order to deal with issues requiring coordination, other issues of common interest, and disputes.

Article XI: Israeli-Palestinian cooperation in economic fields Recognising the mutual benefit of cooperation in promoting the development of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and Israel, upon the entry into force of this declaration of principles, an Israelian economic cooperation committee will be established in order to develop and implement in a cooperative manner the programmes identified in the protocols attached as Annex III and Annex IV.

Article XII: Liaison and cooperation with Jordan and Egypt. The two parties will invite the government of Jordan and Egypt to participate in establishing further liaison and cooperation arrangements between the government of Israel and the Palestinian representatives, on one hand, and the governments of Jordan and Egypt, on the other hand, to promote cooperation between them. These arrangements will include the constitution of a continuing committee that will decide by agreement on the modalities of admission of persons displaced from the West Bank and Gaza Strip in 1967, together with necessary measures to prevent disruption and disorder, other matters of common concern will be dealt with by this committee.

Article XIII: Redeployment of Israeli forces

1. After the entry into force of this declaration of principles, and not later than the eve of elections for the Council, a redeployment of Israeli military forces in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip will take place, in addition to the withdrawal of Israeli forces carried out in accordance with Article XIV. 2. In redeploying its military forces, Israel will be guided by the

principles that its military forces should be redeployed outside populated areas. 3. Further redeployments to specified locations will be gradually implemented commensurate with the assumption of respon

bility for public order and internal security by the Palestinian police force pursuant to Article VIII above. Article XIV: Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and Jericho

Israel will withdraw from the Gaza Strip and Jericho areas, as detailed in the protocol attached as Annex II. Article XV: Resolution of disputes

1. Disputes arising out of the application or interpretation of this declaration of principles, or any subsequent agreements pertaining to the interim period, shall be resolved by negotiations through the joint liaison committee to be established pursuant to Article X above.

2. Disputes which cannot be settled by negotiations may be resolved by a mechanism of conciliation to be agreed upon by the

3. The parties may agree to submit to arbitration disputes relating to the interim period, which cannot be settled through conciliation. To this end, upon the agreement of both parties, the parties will establish an arbitration committee.

Article XVI: Israeli-Palestinian cooperation concerning regions

Both Parties view the multilateral working groups as an appropriate instrument for promoting a "Marshall plan", the regional programmes and other programmes, including special programmes for the West Bank and Gaza Strip, as indicated in the protocol attached as Annex IV.

Article XVII: Miscellaneous provisions

1. This declaration of principles will enter into force one month after its signing.

2. All protocols annexed to this declaration of principles and agreed minutes pertaining there to shall be regarded as an integral

Done at Washington D.C., this... day of....., 1993 for the Palestinians day of_ for the government of Israel

Witnessed by:

The United States of America The Russian Federation

M. KAHIL

Don't blindly follow the U.N. lead

By Robert C. Byrd

WASHINGTON — The news that the Clinton administration is considering an expanded role in United Nations peacekeeping operations is cause for concern. The plan would allow U.S.

soldiers to serve under foreign commanders on a regular basis. Before adopting any directive embracing this policy, the admi-nistration should allow Congress to debate it thoroughly.

If the plan is carried out, we Americans would face more than the dubious prospect of sending U.S. troops into battle under foreign command. We might also become militarily involved in operations that the American people do not properly understand or

Unless there is a national consensus in favour of U.S. involvement, any such military endeavours could be disastrous. U.N. intervention in Somalia is a case in point.

The operation was initially commendable. Its goa! was to see that humanitarian aid was delivered to needy Somalis, and American troops performed

But now, with the humanita-

admirably.

rian mission successfully completed, the U.N. is trying to rebuild the nation's political structure. This risky experiment could include thousands of U.S.

The deaths of four American soldiers in Mogadishu and the overt hostility of Somalis towards U.N. troops show that the opera-tion is crumbling. It is not worth American lives lost and injuries sustained.

Congress has never approved, or even considered, U.N. participation in forcing a political re-conciliation in Somalia. And there is certainly not a consensus among Americans that such an effort is worth any price in our soldiers' blood.

Without a consensus, the likely result of such an operation could be a cut-and-run failure similar to the Beirut disaster from 1982 to 1984. Lacking congressional and popular support, U.S. combat forces in Somalia should be re-

Council resolutions and lars to support the mushrooming peacekeeping missions should not be used by any administration to escape the hard job of consensusbuilding in Washington.

Despite a Security Council re-

solution authorising member na-tions to do battle against the marauding Iraqi army in Kuwait in 1990, the Bush administration sensibly sought congressional approval before committing U.S.

The humanitarian mission in Somalia has now been eclipsed by a gang war in which the United States is taking sides under the U.N. umbrella. In October, the United Nations' initial six-month mandate there expires. If the mission is extended, additional money will be required.

The United States is expected to pay about 30 per cent of the U.N. peacekeeping bill. The U.N. interventions in Somalia and Bosnia are far more expensive than more traditional peacekeeping and humanitarian relief operations.

Congress is already being Dedication to U.N. Security asked to provide billions of dol- New York Times.

around the world. The administration will have a

tough sell in gaining support for more money. Where will these funds come from? We certainly should not cut spending on domestic needs to pay for foreign Yet the White House has re-

quested almost \$1 billion for U.N. obligations in fiscal 1994. By setting aside this sum, the administration could avoid having to go to Congress to get approval for every peacekeeping endeavour in which it wants to get involved.

Congress's ability to support or deny financing is critical to ensuring its voice in policymaking. Until a clear consensus is reached regarding the U.S. role in all peacekeeping matters, Congress should not hand off its constitutional responsibility.

The writer, a Democrat from West Virgina, is chairman of the Senate appropriation Committee. This article is reprinted from the

Land prices double in two days

By Karin Laub The Associated Press

part here of.

JERICHO, Occupied West Bank — Land prices in this sleepy oasis doubled in the two days since word came that Israel and the PLO are close to formal agree-ment to start Palestinian self-rule

But the boom town atmosphere is mixed with anxiety that the autonomy experiment might fail because of infighting or PLO mismanagement.

"I hope the PLO doesn't mess this up. This is the last chance for them and for us," land dealer Arafat Ab Raoushe, 27, said The most likely threat to

Palestinian autonomy would come from the Muslim fundamentalist group Hamas, which has rejected the plan as a sellout and vowed to fight it.

But in Jericho, a farm town of some 15,000 people in the Jordan Valley, Hamas has little influence.

ence, and PLO Chief Yasser Ara-fat's mainstream Fatch faction remains dominant.

Mr. Arafat apparently also selected Jericho as his foothold in the West Bank as a "sure thing" where he would face little political opposition. Israel also finds Jericho appeal-

ing because there are only three Jewish settlements nearby. Friction is expected to be minimal because, unlike many of the 120,000 settlers elsewhere in the occupied lands, the Israelis living further increases. near here are neither religious nor political hardliners.

Jamal Safi, a top Fatch activist in Jericho, said Palestinian peace negotiators told him the changeover would be quick. "We were told we could already be in charge here by the end of the year," said Mr. Safi, 31. Mr. Safi said Mr. Arafat would

moving frequently for fear of represent me. assassination.

offices of the autonomous council in the first stage.

The full understanding be-tween Israel and the PLO that those who cooperate with Israel

"I hear there won't be taxes for the first three years," toy shop owner Emad Salem told Mr. Abu

and the late of the second

Raoushe hopefully.
"If it's true, I'll buy you din-ner," offered the land dealer. ner," offered the land dealer.

Merchants in the market said they believed they would prosper under autonomy, citing the expected investment of tens of millions of dollars by diaspora Palestinians, the Europeans, Americans and Arab states.
Jericho was a flourishing resort town before the 1987 start of the

Palestinian uprising, drawing both Israelis and West Bank residents who filled the garden restaurants along the main road and bought citrus fruit and souvenirs. Shopkeepers are confident the good times are coming back.

Over the past few months, several have renovated rundown shops along the main square and replaced dusty merchandise with the latest European imports.

Mr. Abu Raoushe said land prices have doubled over the past two days, from about \$10,000 per

acre to \$20,000. Prospective buyers called him in the middle of the night while others knocked on his door carrying bags of cash since word came Sunday on the Israel-PLO

"They were ready to put their money down immediately," said Mr. Abu Raoushe, adding that no Jericho residents were ready to sell because they expected

Ahmad Barham, 39, who cooperates openly with Israeli military authorities, said he would move out if Mr. Arafat moved in. One of Mr. Arafat's possible future homes is a twostory villa across the street from Mr. Barham.

"I trust those who helped me (the Israelis) and not those who move to Jericho. He said five stole the money of their people houses were being renovated for and built themselves villas," said the PLO chief who is known for Mr. Barham. "Arafat doesa't

The fact that Mr. Barham was The "winter palace," a dilapi-dated villa on the main road Park downtown Jericho without fear of Lane would likely house the being attacked is perhaps the strongest indicator of the town's laid-back attitude.

would also involve the occupied have been targeted by mider-Gazz Strip has not yet been pub-ground activists who have killed lished, and on Monday, Jericho's 750 since the Palestinian uprising main square was abuzz with began in December 1987.





Illegal immigrants becoming target of violence as resentment grows

By Michael White The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES - Gradgingly accepted for decades as a source of cheap labour in the United States, undocumented immigrants have become the targets of a growing and sometimes violent

While politicians and editorial pages press ever harder for stricter immigration control along the porous Mexican border, violence against immigrants and their advocates appears on the rise.

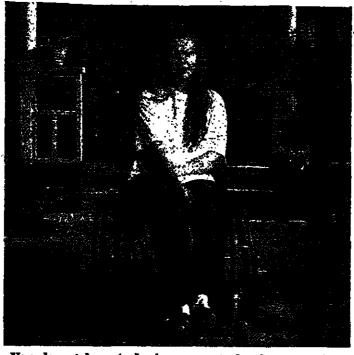
"We've been averaging several hate crimes cases per mouth," said Roberto Martinez of the American Friends Service Committee, which documents immigrant abuse. "It's really accelerated to the point we can't even keep track of them anymore." In a recent New York Times-CBS News poll, 61 per cent of Americans supported a cutback in legally admitted immigrants. The survey also found 68 per cent believed - incorrectly - that most recent immigrants have entered the United States illegally. The backlash has been strongest in recession-battered

Immigration officials estimate 300,000 illegal immigrants enter the United States each year. Cali-fornia absorbs about half of all immigrants, legal and illegal, they

California, where many feel the

influx is straining already-strap-

ped government services to the breaking point.



You do not have to be in a gang to be shot, says this 14-year-old Mexican

Some of the state's most powerful politicians, including Republican Gov. Pete Wilson and Democratic Sen. Dianne astein, have joined a throng of citizen groups in demanding that the federal government take a tougher stand against undocumented immigration.

Mr. Wilson has gone even further, calling for an end to illegal aliens receiving welfare, health care and education — and,

in the most controversial proposal, a halt to the practice of granting citizenship to their Americanborn children.

Mr. Wilson says illegal aliens account for about 2 million of his state's 31.5 million residents. Two-thirds of all babies born in Los Angeles' public hospitals are the children of illegal immigrants, he says.

He estimates that citizens of other countries are robbing the state of \$2.3 billion in services

Mr. Martinez and other advocates counter that legal and illegal immigrants alike contribute to the state's well-being by starting businesses and paying taxes, and are less likely to seek government help than home-grown residents.

Critics aren't placated, arguing that the tide of newcomers has crippled state and local govern-

This is the greatest betrayal of the people in the history of the United States," said Glen Spencer, head of Voices of Citizens Together, a small group of anti-immigration activists.

"The way to save America's butt," he said, "is to stop this hemorrhaging of our social

Vandals ransacked the San Francisco offices of the Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, covering the walls with

anti-immigrant obscenities. — A trackload of white teen ers shouted racial insults and then beat immigrant Alejandro Cnevas as he walked along a street in Escondido, Calif.

– Immigrant activist Ir**ma** Munoz, 20, was assaulted twice on successive nights in Davis, Calif. In one of the attacks, her assailants scrawled "illegal" and wetback" on her arm and leg with a ball-point pen.

A group of teens attacked undocumented immigrants at the

For many migrants, such attacks have added an extra element of fear to the task of survivwhich already is difficult

For Mexican immigrants, it has become more dangerous,' said Margarito Cruz, a Vista, Calif., farmworker who was stopped and beaten by a local resident who saw him running from border patrol agents in June.

"There are many good people here," he said, "but there are also bad people and you have to

Ms. Munoz, a legal resident, said she never imagined her activism would make her the target of

"It turned my life upside down," she said. "But if anything good came out of this, it reaffirmed what I knew — standing up for what I believe in and letting people know of the realities of immigrants and dispelling the myths.'

In Los Angeles County, attacks on Hispanics and Asians have increased as the recession has worsened, said Eugene Mornell,

Human Relations Commission. Reported attacks on Hispanics mped from 67 in 1991 to 89 in 1992, the most recent years for which statistics are available. Assaults on Asians, another com-

sharply, from 54 to 80. Many more incidents go unreported because immigrants fear deportation if they complain to police, Mr. Mornell said.

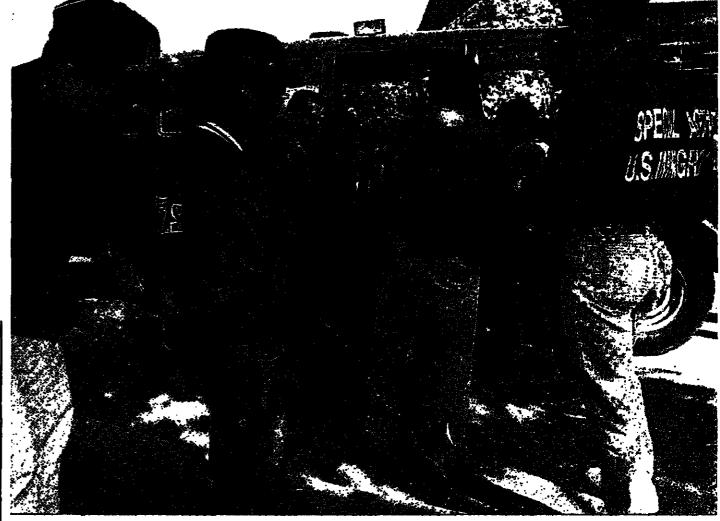
munity with large numbers of

immigrants, increased more

In the political arena, those same factors resulted in a broad-

executive director of the county's based campaign for tighter immigration controls. A dozen hilk introduced in the California lezislature would, among other things, deny some educational and welfare services to undocumented immigrants.

In Washington, Ms. Feinstein announced plans for a bill that would force all who cross the borders with Canada and Mexico to pay a \$1 fee. The proceeds, estimated at about \$450 million per year, would be used to hire additional officers and buy new equipment for the border patrol.



Maybe being rounded up by police, like this suspect illegal alien, is better than becoming the target of growing resentment in a country fed up with immigrants

Ten years later, Russians unsure how to remember KAL 007

By Larry Ryckman The Associated Press

NEVELSK, Russia — The first Russian monument to the 269 people killed on Korean Air Lines Flight 007 was to have been finished by now.

But 10 years after the plane strayed into Soviet airspace and a fighter jet shot it down, work has yet to begin.

Old tires, rusting cables and a stack of metal poles litter the memorial site, a roadside lot in this fishing village overlooking mud flats and the sea of Japan, 55 kilometres from the spot where the Boeing 747 slammed into the

> The failure to memorialise such a tragic cold war event reflects Sakhalin Island, where many residents are only now starting to question the discredited Soviet version of what happened Sept.

) (] -1, 1983. Was the attack a justified response to western provocation, a panicked overreaction or the final mistake in a tragic series that ended with the destruction of a Jumbo jet packed with passen-

gers about to eat breakfast? Kim Den Khi, a Sakhalin offirial who serves as a liaison with the island's ethnic Korean minor--ity, insists the monument be

"It's not something only the families of the victims need," he said. "All our future generations need it to prevent such tragedies in the future.

U.S.-Soviet relations were plunged to a new low by the destruction of Flight 007. President Ronald Reagan denounced the Kremlin. The Soviet government said the civilian jetliner was on a spy mission, "used by American special services for their dirty

Over the past year, President

Boris Yeltsin of Russia has released evidence that leaves little serious doubt about what happened high above Russia's Far East. Some of it is from the flight data recorders, or "black boxes," which the Soviet government had said were never reco-

After the Jumbo jet left Anchorage, Alaska, for Seoul, South Korea, it veered hundreds of kilometres off course over the

After straying for more than two hours over sensitive military bases on the Kamchatka Peninsu la and Sea of Okhotsk, tracked by Soviet fighters, the plane flew over Sakhalin, a verdant island turned fortress. Authorities below debated what to do.

Finally, the order came and a Soviet officer shouted, "get Osi-povich to fire, and soon," cursing that the intruder was approaching international waters near Japan. Pilot Gennady Osipovich fired two air-to-air missiles from his SU-15 fighter and sent Flight 007

crashing into the sea. Inside the Korean airliner, the cockpit crew had been laughing and sharing cigarettes when an alarm went off and the plane rapidly lost altitude, according to recently released transcripts of conversations on the data recor-

"Get up" one pilot shouted to another as they struggled with the

controls. "I can't" came the reply Startled passengers, told only minutes before to prepare for breakfast, heard the announcement: "Urgent cabin descent. Fasten seat belts. Put on oxygen

Mr. Osipovich radioed to his controllers: "The target is des-

troyed." He returned to base a hero. Soon afterward, when authorities learned the identity of the mysterious intruder, he became simply a man who had followed orders. Even now, Mr. Osipovich insists the Boeing was a ghost vessel on a spy mission and carried no

Those who know the retired air force colonel say the experience

"He killed a lot of people. Their ghosts are in his kitchen and in his garden, and he's trying to find a way to live with it," said Andrei Illesh, an editor of the newspaper Izvestia who wrote a

"I don't believe there were any ngers aboard," said Ivan

trawler Uvarovsk, the first vesse to reach the crash site. Mr. Biriukh said his crew found wreckage and personal belongings from the water, but no "My first impression was that

they just took some things from a store and put them in the water,"
Mr. Biriukh told the Associated Press. "Things were very new. They still had labels in them." Experts believe the jet hit the water with such force that it

would be difficult to find any bodies intact, and that crabs and other sea life ate most of the Some people think Soviet sear-

chers did retrieve bodies and secretly buried them in a mass grave on Sakhalin, then a closed military region. In early September, Russia will let victims' families excavate a remote site south of Nevelsk in hopes of clearing up the mystery.

Most of the dead were South Koreans and Japanese, but 61 Americans were aboard, including Rep. Larry McDonald of

Aided by the newly released material, the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) in June blamed the KAL crew for letting the plane stray into Soviet airspace. It criticised Soviet authorities for shooting the jet down without attempting to contact the crew.

The ICAO report concluded that Soviet authorities mistook the jetliner for a U.S. spy plane that had been in the region earlier and ordered the aircraft desbook on the disaster.

"Many Sakifatin Standers share who plane's crew misses the flight's purpose, noting the apprent failure to find human remains.

"That's part of the tragedy of this: They never knew they were was a fighter outside, they didn't even know they had been shot down," said James Oberg, an American author and aerospace

There's no indication from the voice tapes that they ever had a clue that they'd been hit by a

For Mr. Osipovich, Mr. Biriukh and others on Sakhalin. the doubts remain. Some have reluctantly accepted the western version of events. For others, Flight 007 has simply slipped into history, along with the Soviet

"Ten years have passed since then, and I don't feel like judging the past," said Yevgeny Kras-noyarov, governor of the island. Officials said they planned to

erect a temporary marker for the Sept. 1 anniversary and would build the memorial later.

The permanent memorial's designer doubts it will be built.

From my personal experience, I know that if they make something 'temporary' it will last forever," said Khan San Tzun, a local architect.

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PROCUREMENT NOTICE JORDAN ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY AQABA THERMAL POWER STATION-STAGE !! PROJECT **TURBINE ISLAND CONTRACT** (TENDER NO. 46/93) The Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) announces the

turbine island tender documents (Tender No. 46/93) for Aqaba Thermal Power Station-stage II extension project, are available for purchase as of Aug. 29, 1993.

The tender consists of the design, supply, delivery, erection, testing and commissioning of two (2) steam turbine units each 130 MW with all auxiliaries for the above project which is an extension to the existing Agaba Thermal Power Station that consists of two (2) x 130 MW oil fired power generating units.

The project will be divided into four major contract packages, the boiler island, the turbine island, the civil works and the fuel oil tanks island.

The bidders will be allowed to bid for one tender package. any combination therefore, or a single turnkey contract. It is expected that Arab and international funding agencies will participate in financing the project. Procurement will be subject to the terms and conditions of the respective lending agencies.

Sealed tenders shall be submitted to the secretary of the Tendering Committee before 10:00 a.m. Amman time, Jan. 3, 1994, at the JEA office in Amman.

Tender documents are available from the address given below for a non-refundable fee of \$3,000 payable to JEA for each set consisting of two copies of the tender

Jordan Electricity Authority Zahran Street-7th Circle P.O. Box 2310 **Amman-Jordan** Tex.: 21259, Fax.: 818336

PROCUREMENT NOTICE JORDAN ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY AQABA THERMAL POWER STATION-**STAGE II PROJECT BOILER ISLAND CONTRACT** (TENDER NO. 47/93)

The Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) announces the boiler island tender documents (Tender No. 47/93) for Agaba Thermal Power Station-stage II extension project, are available for purchase as of Aug. 31, 1993.

The tender consists of the design, supply, delivery, erection, testing and commissioning of two (2) boiler units, each for 130 MW power capacity with all auxiliaries for the above project which is an extension to the existing Aqaba Thermal Power Station that consists of two (2) x 130 MW oil fired power generating units.

The project will be divided into four major contract packages, the boiler island, the turbine island, the civil works and the fuel oil tanks island.

The bidders will be allowed to bid for one tender package, any combination therefore, or a single turnkey contract. It is expected that Arab and international funding agencies will participate in financing the project. Procurement will be subject to the terms and conditions of the respective lending agencies.

Sealed tenders shall be submitted to the secretary of the Tendering Committee before 10:00 a.m. Amman time, Jan. 3, 1994, at the JEA office in Amman.

Tender documents are available from the address given below for a non-refundable fee of \$3,000 payable to JEA for each set consisting of two copies of the tender documents.

Jordan Electricity Authority Zahran Street-7th Circle P.O. Box 2310 Amman-Jordan Tex.: 21259, Fax.: 818336

300-year- drought doomed world's first empire

By Boyce Rensberger

WASHINGTON — The long-mysterious collapse in 2200 B.C. of the Akkadian empire, the first imperial regime the world had ever known, appears to have been brought on by the abrupt onset of a severe drought that lasted 300 years.

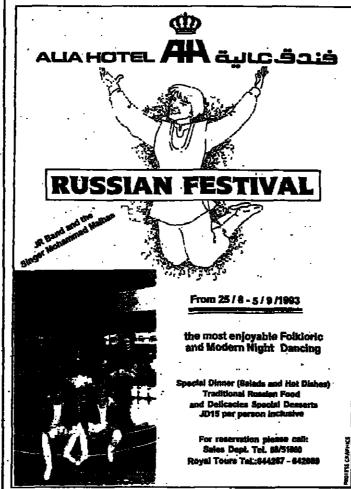
The archaeologists and geologists who made this claim in the Ang. 20 issue of the journal Science say that they have solid evidence of such a climatic shift in the Akkadian beartland of Mesopotamia and that it followed a volcanic eruption that blanketed the region with a thin layer of

There has been a lot of speculation about a drought wreaking have throughout the ancient world around that time, but not in Mesopotamia — we had a gap in the sata there — and there was no bard evidence from anywhere, and Harvey Weiss, 2 Yale University archaeologist who led the American-French expedition that turned up the new findings. "Now we've got direct r evidence, no inferences." ". The scientists found their clues by digging in the ruins of an ancient city between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in what is now Syria.

Marie-Agnes Courty, a French geologist working with Mr. Weiss, found the evidence that explains the empire's collapse. Miss Courty, who is with the Centre National de Recherche Scientifique in Paris, used a microscope to examine sediment lying on house roofs of the time and found a thick layer of volcanic ash. In the surrounding countryside, Miss Courty found a deep layer of wind-blown sand lying over the ash layer, measuring up to three feet thick in some places.

"That" Mr. Weiss said, "tells you the climate went from good to rotten in a very short time -- in the tens of years, I'd say."

At the time the ash fell and the sandy layers formed at Tell Leilan, life in the city stopped. For the next 300 years there was no further occupation of the site. Many other Mesopotamian cities emptied out at the same time. Many of the people, presumably, headed south, towards Sumerian cities whose irrigated fields could still yield crops - Washington



IMF modestly cuts industrial world growth forecast

(IMF) has modestly lowered its to 1.2 per cent for 1993 and 2.8 forecast for economic growth in the industrial world for 1993 and 1994, monetary sources said Monday.

The new forecast - which will be published late next month relfects a milder-than-expected expansion in the United States, a deeper-than-anticipated recesssion in Europe and a Japanese recovery that has been slow to

Monetary sources declined to reveal the details of the new forecast, which is still being finalised by fund staff.

In April, the fund predicted industrial countries would register growth of 1.7 per cent this year and 2.9 per cent next. It forecast Japan would grow 1.3 per cent this year and 3.5 per cent the next. European Community growth was forecast at 0.1 per cent this year and 2.2 per cent the

The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, whose economic analysis often closely mirrors that of the

WASHINGTON (R) — The International Monetary Fund industrial country growth in June per cent for 1994.

"1994 will be a better year than '93, but it won't be particularly buoyant," one international monetary source said.

Japan and Europe should begin to recover next year, but the upturn is likely to be modest, monetary sources said.

In the United States, economic growth is likely to be held back somewhat in 1994 by the tax "Things are being revised increases contained in President down a little bit," one source Bill Clinton's plan to slash the federal budget deficit.

The IMF forecast in April that the U.S. economy would expand by 3.2 per cent in both 1993 and 1994. But that now looks too

The U.S. economy expanded by only 0.9 per cent in the first quarter, and new figures due Wednesday are expected to show it only grew slightly faster than that in the second quarter.

The Clinton administration has signalled that it expects to lower its forecast for U.S. growth to around 2.5 per cent for this year and about three per cent for next. One source said the IMF's new forecast is likely to be in line with

BNP to start off France's privatisation drive

PARIS (R) — Banque Nationale de Paris (BNP), which ranks among the world's biggest banks, will kick off the French government's ambitious privatisation drive in the next few weeks, Economy Minister Edmond Alphandery said Tuesday.

He said BNP's active role in the French economy had made it an abvious first candidate. "It's a symbol," he said "It's a very good way to get the privatisation ball rolling."

A total of 21 state-owned firms are due to be privatised under a five-year plan hammered out by the five-month-old centre-right, coalition government. Primg Minister Edouard Bailadur has said he hopes to raise 40 billion francs (\$6.9 billion) this year

The government last month published a short-list of four firms which are to be the first for sale into private hands. These included, as well as BNP, pharmaceuticals and chemicals firm Rhone-Poulency, oil company Elf Aquitaine and a ssmall retail bank, Banque Hervet.

The exact date of the BNP sell-off has yet to be set. With investors around the globe now piling into equities, the climate good.

But just in case, the government has left itself the option of postponing the sale if market conditions are not suitable.

Analysts reckon that the state would raise about 25-30 billion francs (\$4.3 billion to \$5.1 billion) if it were to sell all of its 72.9 per cent direct stake in BNP's capital. Last week, when the bank re-leased its first half results, it put its book value at 37 billion francs (\$6.3 billion);

BNP - France's third largest bank with 1,900 branches and a presence in 78 countries — saw its net profit after payments to minorities tumble 61 per cent to 552 million francs (\$89.5 million)

in the first six months of this year. A jump in provisions for gener-'al risks and loans that had gone sour, mainly the result of exposure to troubled small and medium-sized firms, were largely to blame for the profit slide.

With such bad news behind it. tors the prospect of a strong recovery, maybe as early as next year. They estimate that shares in the bank will be sold at a little over 500 French francs (\$94)

BNP itself had no comment to take on the news. Its chairman, Michel Pebereau, has kept a low profile since he was appointed shortly after March's parliamentary elections.

Mr. Pebereau won great respect from Franc's financial community for his management of Credit Commercial de France, a smaller bank that was privatised

Japan MITI vows to change Byzantine economy system

TOKYO (R) — Japan will reform its Byzantine economic systen. to better integrate with the rest of the world, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITT) said Tuesday.

"Our country will try to change itself so that it can establish an economic structure in harmony with that of the international community," MITI said in a report on trade and industrial policy for 1994/95 starting next April.

Specific measures for change include deregulating public sector industries such as gas, improving unfair business practices, and relaxing government regulations which form barriers to imports, the report said.

Focusing on these measures, the ministry requested on Tuesday 917.4 billion yen (\$8.82 billion) for 1994/95 general account spending, the core of of the ninistry budget, up 4.2 per cent

from a year earlier. Earlier this month, MITI Minister Hiroshi Kumagai said Japan must slash its huge trade

surplus or risk destroying the world economy. "If Japan's trade surplus continues, it will be one factor lead-

ing to the destruction of the world economy," he said.

Tokyo's trade surplus with the world increased in July for the

31st straight month. On a customs-cleared basis, it nped to \$11.82 billion from \$9.23 billion in July last year, the finance ministry said. The politically explosive surplus with the United States climbed to \$4.68

billion from \$3.81 billion. Meanwhile, a major business group has said that Japan's business practices and regulations are curbing the price benefits Japanese consumers should have gained from the yen's sharp rise. Japan should open its markets wider, promote competitiveness,

ban such unfair practices as price fixing, and allow consumers greater access to corporate information, said a report issued by the Japan Employers' Association. Theoretically, a \$10 foreign product that cost 1,250 yea in

month offensive to restore order

to its economy, but warned that

much more needs to be done,

state-run media reported Tues-

"The current financial situation is still relatively grim," said Vice

Premier Zhu Rongji, despite success in areas like stabilising Chi-

na's currency, increasing bank savings and curbing real estate

A similar message was sent by

President Jiang Zemin in the

northeastern city of Dalian last

week, the Xinhua News Agency

In a major blow to his efforts,

reported.

Japan in February should cost 1,010 yen now because of the yen's surge. This would be expected to help foreign companies boost sales here.

The report said, however, that such gains require proper functioning of the market mechanism. But in our country, that is not

the case," it added. Importers often do not pass the savings on to consumers. In addition, prices are inflexibel for farm and non-manufacturing services and products because of government regulations to protect Japanese sellers against foreign competition.

The association said prices of such items as rice, beef, utilities, imported cars, international phone calls and taxi rides especially need to be cut.

That can be done through such steps as relaxing inspections by imported cars and food, and easing restrictions on long-distance ephone services, it said,

The report urged companies against depending on the government's regulations and guidance in competing with foreign com-

It also told consumers they should be wise enough to view brand names as not necessarily signifying prestige and higher quality.

cluding those considered barriers to foreign products, has become a key issue as the yen's rise threatens Japan's economic recovery from a slump.

The major cause of the ven's strength is the huge surplus in what Japan exports to the United States and other countries, compared with what it imports from

The higher yen was supposed to help cut the surplus by making Japanes goods more expensive overseas and foreign products cheaper in Japan. But the trade surplus has been growing, partly because the strong yen inflates Japan's export figures in dollar terms while the nation's economic slump has kept it from sharp-

Beijing failed to recover two-thirds of nearly 220 billion yuan (\$38 llion) in irregular inter-

Recalling the loans was a cen-tral part of Mr. Zhu's campaign, launched in early July after he

took over as central bank gov-

ernor, to reduce runaway infla-

tion and cool an economy that

grew 13.9 per cent between Janu-

ary and June, from a year earlier. Funds used for speculation in

stocks, real estate and foreign

currency trading during the de-

velopment frenzy of the past 18

months are urgently needed to

oans by an Aug. 15 dead-

Russia pegs oil investment needs at \$65 b

HOUSTON (R) — Russia's prime minister told energy executive Monday that the world's second-largest oil producer will need about \$65 billion by the year 2000 to stem the steep slide in the country's crude production.

Despite Russia's vast promise, many U.S. companies have been reluctant to make major commitments because of a bureaucratic maze and confusing array of tax policies that increase their costs. But in a sign that cooperation may be growing, Russia struck a

key gas transport deal with Houston-based Enron Corp that was announced Monday just be-fore Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin addressed business executives here.

Trying to reassure the U.S. oil industry and repair strained ties, Mr. Chernomyrdin — once a refinery worker himself — said he was seeking another big oil expioration deal by year-end.

Western enregy companies have expressed frustration with the pace of change in Russia and the endless red tape. But Mr. Chernomyrdin, aware of the criticism, said Russia was eager to

improve the business climate. You will see a turn for the better very soon ... the process is underway," he told the Greater Houston Partnership, a local business group of about 500 ex-

Mr. Chernomyrdin declined to discuss details, saying they will be released Thursday in Washington, when he is due to meet with Vice President Al Gore. Mr. Chernomyrdin said Russia

wants to deal mainly with oil companies that can offer expertise in exploration and production operations, as well as refining and marketing - something only the very biggest can do.

He also said companies seeking to do business in Russia must be

approach, reinvest in the local economy and feed the domestic market.

"I think the train is leaving the station," energy expert Daniel Yergin said. "Things are going to start happening. There's momen-

The deal between Enron, a leading U.S. transporter of natural gas, and Russia's major natugas firm R.A.O Gazprom calls for the development of new markets for Russian gas in the European power sector.

Enron Chairman Kenneth Lay said the deal will start with an exchange of information about Europe's natural gas and electric power markets and will quickly move toward development of individual projects.

Mr. Chernomyrdin said Rus-

sian officials are working to remove barriers that have frustrated western energy companies

willing to take a long-term trying to complete joint ventures. in the country.

As an example, he said he has

set a deadline to complete nogo-tiations by year-end for the de-veloment of the huge oil offshore fields near the Sakhalin islands in east Russia.

Mr. Chernomyrdin outlined. three areas of specific investment: for Russia's oil industry. He said at least \$12 billion in.

investment is needed to repair the thousands of idled fields and could return a profit within two to three years. Another area for investment

would be to increase oil and gas production in existing fields, which he said requires about \$10 billion in investment,

Long-term projects that seek to explore new fields are also available with investments of \$5 billion to \$7 billion each year needed between 1995 and 2000. he said.

Ukraine premier presents last-gasp reform plan

KTEV (R) - Prime Minister Leonid Kuchma presented a lastgasp programme to save Ukraine's economy from collapse Tuesday and called for sweeping powers to end political paralysis and introduce vital reforms.

Mr. Kuchma told deputies an overhaul of the former Soviet republic's crippled political institutions was required pending new elections to replace a parliament he said was unable to adopt necessary measures.

"Parliament is incapable of taking decisions. No action has been taken on 75 laws presented urgently to deputies," he said. A state of emergency will not help, but emergency economic measures are absolutely vital. All eastern Europe has gone through crisis. It is difficult to change a shovel into a computer.'

The prime minister presented tough anti-inflation measures to be discussed over the next 10 days, including an abrupt halt to profligate state credit for lossmaking industry and agriculture. Mr. Kuchma's programme was the latest of several elaborated since he took office last October

with a mandate to place Ukraine

No explanation for the failure

was given, but Chinese officials

blame strong resistance from in-

creasingly independent-minded

provincial governments and un-

realistic expectations by Mr. Zhu.

address to northeastern officials,

tive, we must unify our thinking

and actions to make sure that

While urging the provincial

the letter," he said.

Mr. Jiang alluded to this in his

urging greater provincial coop-eration. "To achieve our objec-

orders and prohibitions of central goal of controlling the issuing of

authorities are carried out to to paper money" - a failure thre-

leaders to seize opportunities for running at an annual rate of more

economic development, Mr. than 30 per cent in some cities.

Chinese leaders urge more efforts

to restore economic order

BEIJING (AFP) - China Mr. Zhu acknowledged in a re- upgrade China's badly strained Jiang stressed the need for stabil-

undertaken by Russia nearly a vear earlier. But unlike in Russia, consum-

on the same path to reforms

ers in Kiev still form long queues early each morning for staples like milk and bread.

Kiev shops were jammed Tuesday with anxious shoppers trying to beat price increases set for Sept. 1 and buying scarce supplies for the beginning of the school year. Many are available only with ration coupons.

Mr. Kuchma said only a single structure for decision-making would allow Ukraine find a way to introdúce market mecha curb inflation and bring down a vast budget deficit.

The central bank should be brought under the government's control and the conservative Soviet-era parliament should confine its activities to working out a tions in March, he said.

The president would be re sponsible for legislation and the government for its implementation, including issuing decrees. Mr. Kuchma last week pre-dicted the imminent downfall of his own government following the

"We must continue to imple

ment these (macro-economic)

policies and measures and pay

attention to new circumstances

and new problems that crop up in

our economic work," said Mr.

Jiang, also Communist Party

Mr. Zhu conceded it would be

"very difficult to reach the year's

atening severe repercussions for

efforts to control inflation, now

minister Viktor Pynzenyk, chief architect of Ukraine's fitful re-Mr. Pynzenk said conservatives

were blocking attempts at change. Mr. Kuchma predicted that parlaiment would reject any programme of reforms put to it. Monthlyu inflation stands at 40

per cent, the country's interim currency has fallen sharply and the budget deficit widening as governent lending and spending Parliament, viewed with dis-

dain by most Ukrainians, last week threw the country's political future into disarray by failing to take any decision on its key institutions. Two days of wrangling pro-

duced no agreement on whether to hold new elections or proceed with referendums of confidence

in parliament and President resignation of deputy prime Leonid Kravchuk. He and other leaders adopted no clear position on the matter. Mr. Kuchma, former director

of Europe's largest missile fac-tory, said it would take years to create a stable economy and improve living standards. "There is tragedy ahead, but not catastrophe. We will sur-

vive," he said. He also repeated his conviction

that Ukraine needed to proceed with an economic union with Russia to ensure its energy supplies and maintain its tradition trading links.

Creation of such a union, viewed ith suspicion by Ukrainian nationalists, is a key issue at the forthcoming summit of Commonweath on Independent States

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 1993 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Go after what you want today in a direct and uncomplicated fashion but as the day wears on you will find that you will need to be more tactful and diplomatic to overcome worrisome feeling that is in the

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You can't seem to get the ideas you want early for being more creative but then you find you can get into

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) A matter at your residence can keep you from the early start you had anticipated although later you can get into your special talent and perfect it.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Don't let a message from a partner keep you from getting into home and family affairs you had planned to attend to and improve all at your

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Think about what you can do to avoid worry over money matters in the daytime but later you see ways to work them out to your satisfaction.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Early morning anxiety should not keep you from going after your intimate and personal aims but you are able to bring them right into your orbit

VIRGO: (August 22 to September

you from an early start but then you can contact those with social information you need and gain

their confidence

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Don't expect a friend to do what you want early but sook you find other close contacts who will go out of their way to be helpful to your aims.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Events start slow in the outside world but oon they start to break in your behalf and your are able to handle the details of them

very well indeed. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Don't yield to going off on some tangent early from frustration or it is a day when you can achieve a great deal in the world public vocation.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Avoid a dispute over an account early and then by off into some new venture or undertaking which you have a good chance to make a success of.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) A bombastic person can upset you early but don't be intimudated by but continue carrying through with promises made as you have a grand to do them. have agreed to do them. PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You can't invision the scope of job activities early but later one who has clarity of speech and view

will be able to do so for you.

Peanuts

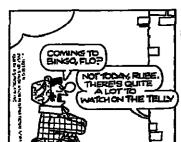






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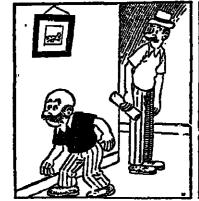
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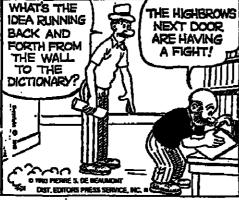






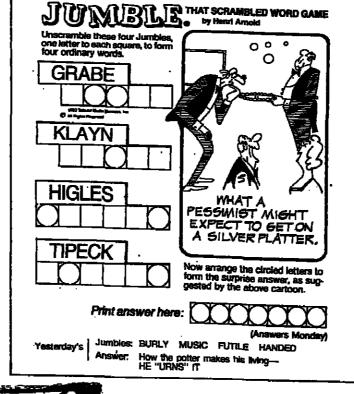
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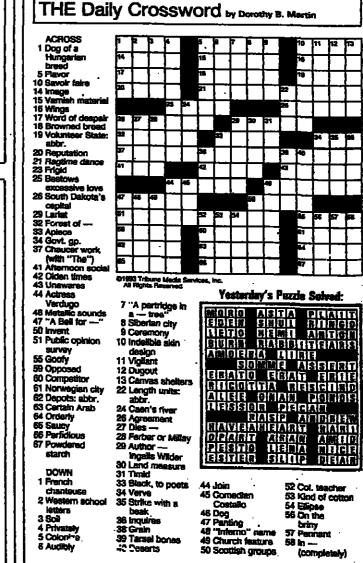














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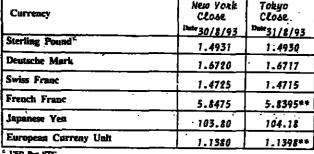
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TOTAL NO. OF TRADED SHARES IN PARALLEL MARKET : ID

Jordan Times Financial



U.S. Dollar in International Market



Eurocurrency Interest Rates			Data: 31/8/1993		
Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTH	
U.S. Dollar	3:05	3.09	3.28-	. 3.43	
Sterling Polled	7.50W 5.68	5.75	5.50	5.50	
Deutsche Mark	6.81	6.56	6.31	5.93	
Swiss Franc	4.75	4.56	4.43	4.25	
French Franc	7.50	7.18	6.62	5.87	
Japanese Yen	2.93	2-68	2.68	2.68	
European Currency Unit	8.06	7.62	7.06	6.43	

Precious Metals		•	Date: 31	/8/1993	
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm ³	Metal	USD/Oz	. JD/Gm
Gold -	370.65	7.30	Silver	4.84	0.107

Date: 31/8/1993

Bid	Offer
0.6920	0.6940
1.0316	1.0368
0.4137	0.4158
0.4698	0_4721
0.1185	8.7489
0.6631	9.5664
0.3682	0.3700
0.0853	0.0857
0.0432	0.0434
0.01943	0.01953
	0.6920 1.0316 0.4137 0.4698 0.1185 0.6651 0.3682 0.0853

Other Currencles	- Date:	Date: 31/8/1993			
Corrency	Bid	Offer			
Behraini Diner	. 7.8105	1.8450			
Lehanese Lira	0.039540	0.40625			
Saudi Riyal	0.1830	0.1860			
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2550	2.3300			
Qatari Rivai	0.1874	0.1891			
Egyptisa Pound	0.2000	0.2300			
Omani Riyal	1.7630	1.8200			
UAE Dirtam	0.1874	0.1891			
Greek Druchma	0.2925	0.3375			
Cyprict Pound	1.3425	1.3675			

LONDON EXCHANGE RASI

LONGON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for loading market currencies and gold against the dollar standards on the Longon Exchange and bullion markets messay.

U.S. \$1,00 costs 1.3225/30 1.6700/10 1.8775/85 1.4670/80 35.50/60 5.8325/25 1596.0/8.0 104.20/30 8,1220/20

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Saudi Arabia says economy in good shape

DUBAI (R) — Saudi Arabia has strongly rejected critical Western media reports on its economy as ill-judged and unfair and said it was proud of using its huge oil wealth to build a modern state.

Finance Minister Mohammad Abal Khail said in a letter to the New York Times Aug. 26 that there was no cause for concern about the Saudi economy. The newspaper, which last

week ran a two-part series which drew a grim picture of the state of the Sandi economy, has yet to publish the minister's response. Reuters obtained a copy of his seven-page letter.

The newspaper reported that reserves dropped to \$51 billion from \$121 billion with spending on defence and social programmes, the 1991 Gulf war and foreign aid,

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Sheikh Abal Khail confirmed that Saudi Arabia had depleted its foreign reserves to transform the desert kingdom from "a tribal society to a modern state."

That the kingdom produces about eight million barrels of oil daily should in itself be an assurance of continuing flow of foreign

He said the world's largest oil

Sheikh Abal Khail said Riyadh had in the past two decades invested \$900 billion in developing its infrastructure, provided \$70 billion in soft loans for investment in industry, housing and construction and spent another \$70 billion on loans and aid to 70 developing countries.

exchange," he added.

Saudi Arabia had no public

utilities such as electricity or water in many of its major cities 25 years ago. It now boasts an impressive power network, huge water desalination plants, un-

airlines, ships, petrochemical complexes and industries from producer and exporter "has always managed its affairs prudentelectronics to frozen hamburgers. Several criticial reports in recent days in U.S. and British media cast serious doubts about

government finances.

tivalled toads and owns pipelines.

These doubts were largely discounted by bankers and diplomats in the kingdom but they caused market jitters in Saudi Arabia where investors were ditching their rivals for US. dollars while interbank interest rates rose.

The reports also led to worries in Saudi Arabia that the kingdom may not be able to obtain funds abroad as easily as it had done in

The minister strongly defended Saudi banks against charges of mismanagement and failure to deal with bad debts.

U.S. banking regulators decided against downgrading Saudi Arabia's credit rating last March despitel recommendations from . the U.S. central bank economists, U.S. officials said.

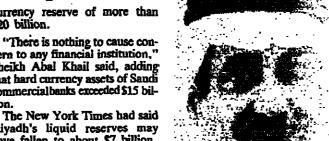
They said the regulators at the New York Federal Reserve Bank members of the so-called Inter-Agency Country Exposure Review Committee (ICERC) maintained Saudi Arabia's categ-

Sheikh Abal Khail also stressed that the covertible Saudi riyal was covered fully by a special hard currency reserve of more than \$20 billion.

"There is nothing to cause concern to any financial institution." Sheikh Abal Khail said, adding that hard currency assets of Saudi commercial banks exceeded \$15 bil-

Riyadh's liquid reserves may have fallen to about \$7 billion. But Sheikh Abal Khail said Saudi public debt was no more than the 52 per cent limit of gross domestic product GDP set by the European Community (EC) for credit worthiness.

The minister said government foreign debt was only \$4.5 billion. Total debt includes loans obtained by other public bodies



Mohammad Ahal Khail

with the IMF putting the country's gross domestic product (GDP) at \$119 billion, the minisand raised in domestic markets. ter's figure suggests a total public Bankers in the kingdom said that debt of some \$61 billion.

Round date as last

GENEVA (R) - Trade envoys from 116 nations Tuesday endorsed a final deadline of mid-December for completing a Uruguay Round tariff-cutt ig treaty, which would then be igned at a ministerial meeting i April, a GATT spokesman : id.

Peter Sutherland, directorgeneral of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), firmly set Dec. 15 as the make-or-break date to clinch a pact to liberalise global trade. After closed-door talks of the trade negotiations committee (TNC), the round's steering body, a GATT spokesman said: "Sutherland clearly and une-

quivocally stated to the TNC that Dec. 15 is the end of the round for good or for bad. There will be no extension. He emphasised that

Mr. Sutherland boldly called a ministerial meeting for April in Geneva to sign the more thn 500-page treaty.

Andrew Stoler, acting head of

the U.S. trade representative's office in Geneva, welcomed the firm timetable. He told Reuters: "We always felt that mid-December would be time enough. If we can't do it by then then, it's too bad."

Mr. Stoler added: "We can hardly take issue with the date, as

we are basically the ones who set it under our fast-track process."

U.S. President Bill Clinton must inform Congress by Dec. 15 about his intention to sign an accord to liberalise world trade. Under the "fast-track" negotiating authority, his administration then has 120 days, or mid-

April, to sign it.

The GATT spokesman said:
"There was unanimous support for Sutherland's work programme to finish the round by yearend.".

No delegates from the 116 nations attending the TNC took the floorl to object to a ministerial-

International Hotel

level signature meeting in April, according to the GATT spokes-

The ambitious round was launched in September 1986 to break down trade barriers in agriculture, goods and services into the next century.

Mr. Sutherland warned in a speech: "Failure to reach agreement by the end of this year would undermine the multilateral trading system with unpredictable economic, political and, even, security consequences."

"Mushrooming trade disputes and deep antagonisms between regional blocs would foreshadow serious damage to the world eco-

nomy," he added. "The process of economic recovery in the industrialised countries would not only be impeded but might well he reversed.

Mr. Sutherland, a former competition commissioner for the 12nation European Community, urged governments to "demonstrate political leadership" and "face down vested interests."

"The overall benefits of the round clearly outweigh perceived costs in particular sectors," said Mr. Sutherland, who stepped down as chairman of Allied Irish Banks two months ago.

Delegates met after a month in their capitals during which they Uruguay round process.'

were to seek fresh concessions to pave the way for winding up the round - long blocked over rows

on cutting farm support.

Mr. Sutherland called for an immediate resumption of intensive negotiations and improved offers on market access, adding that so far only 54 of the 116 nations had put forward propos-

He called for accelerated negotiations for bringing services (banking, insurance, telecom-munications) under GATT rules, saying finalising an accord by mid-September would add "helpfull momentum to the overall

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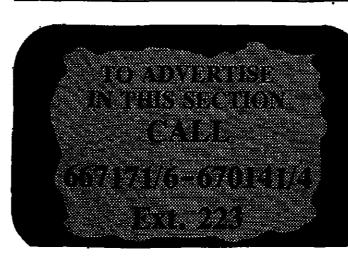


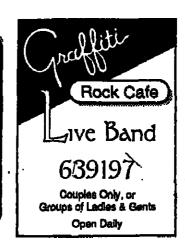


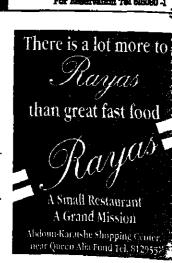


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Hurricane

intensifies;

warnings

extended

MANTEO, North Carolina (R)
- Hurricane Emily churned

North Carolina Tuesday and hur-

ricane warnings were extended as

far north up the U.S. Atlantic

cane to turn more towards the

and eventually northeast. Where that turn takes place is very, very critical," said Max Mayfield of the National Hurri-

cane Centre in Coral Gables,

The hurricane centre said Emi-

ly was packing maximum sustained winds of 100 mph (160

kph) and some additional streng-

thening was expected during the next 24 hours.

"Any tropical storm, especially a hurricane, has a great deal of damage potential and history has

proven this too vividiy," the cen-

people not to underestimate the

In an interview with CNN, Mr.

Mayfield said hurricane warnings

had been extended from Bogue

Inlet, just south of North Caroli-

na's Outer Banks Barrier Islands,

northward to Cape Henlopen,

Delaware, at the mouth of the

Delaware Bay.
The first of the hurricane's

outer rain bands began brushing the coast from North Carolina's

Cape Hatteras northward, the

National Weather Service re-

Winds were expected to reach harricane strength by the after-

"All coastal residents should

stay tuned for the latest advisory

on the storm and remain alert,

Officials Monday ordered the

possible dangers.

in U.S.

coast as Delaware.

China will not rule out use of force over Taiwan

PEKING (R) — China issued a major policy paper on Taiwan Tuesday, repeating its offer of peaceful unification but threatening again that Peking may use military force if necessary to retake the island.

"Peaceful unification is a set policy of the Chinese government," the cabinet said in its "white paper" on Taiwan.

"However, any sovereign state is entitled to use any means it deems necessary, including military ones, to uphold its sovereignty and territorial integrity."

The white paper came as Peking and Taipei settled into the first round of ground-breaking talks on improving links long fraught by cold war suspicions and bitter memorles of China's civil war in the late 1940s.

Peking's communist rulers rejected any prospect of Taiwanese

The Chinese government is closely following the course of events and will never condone any manoeuvre for "Taiwan inde-

Chinese and Taiwanese negotiators met in Peking to start working out how to handle the explosive growth of economic, family and tourism ties as tensions eased in recent years.

The talks, carefully "unofficial" to circumvent Taipei's standing ban on official contact, represent the latest in a series of high-level

Iran holds

exercise at

border with

TEHRAN (AFP) — Some 10,000 Iranian troops held joint man-

oeuvres with the air force near

the Armenian border following

warnings that Tehran would not

tolerate the Armenian offensive

in Azerbaijan, state-run radio

said Tuesday.
The exercise, involving the 21st

Battalion of the army's elite

ground forces as well as the air

force, took place in the border

area of Marand, 50 kilometres

from the autonomous Armenian

region of Nakhichevan in Azer-

miles) from Armenia proper, it

The manoeuvre is the first con-

ducted by Iran on its northern

border since the 1979 revolution.

cessfully conducted the first

phase of the excercise, code-

named "Sahand 1" after a moun-

tain range in the region, against

the mock enemy and is to begin

The action comes amid increas-

ing signs that Tehran is ready to

adopt a tougher stand towards

the Armenian offensive in Azer-

Meanwhile, Armenian separat-

ist forces launched a new offen-

sive Tuesday on the southwestern

Azerbaijani regions of Dzhebrail

and Kubatiy and were advancing

towards Zangelan, further south,

the Azerbaijani Defence Ministry

Interfax News Agency, said the

separatist Armenian troops Tues-

day morning captured all the villages on the right bank of the Akera River, just east of Kubatl,

and were nearing Zangelan, lo-

cated near the Iranian border.

villages in the Dzebrail area and

18 in the Kubati region had fallen

to the separatists, who are seek-

ing to consolidate their hold on

all territory southwest of the dis-

puted Nagorno-Karabakh en-

clave, as far as the Iranian bor-

In Stepanakert, the enclave's

main city, Armenian authorities

said their troops successfully re-

buffed an Azerbaijani counter-

offensive in Kubatl. They said

one Armenian soldier died and

four others were injured in the

Azerbaijani organisation known

as the "grey Wolves" had joined

ranks with Azeri forces in Kubatl

and that the local Kurdish

population living there was being

Scheduled negotiations on the

disputed enclave were indefinite-

ly postponed Monday at the re-

quest of Azerbaijan, which is also

An Azerbaijan spokesman said

the request had been made be-

cause of Sunday's referendum in the republic which confirmed the

ouster of fugitive Azerbaijani

President Abulfaz Elchibey and

the people's confidence in acting

president and former Communist

The United States reaffirmed

Monday its support for Mr.

Elchibey, suggesting Sunday's re-erendum may have been flawed.

leader Geidar Aliyev.

plagued with domestic unrest.

used as human shields.

They added that an extremist

The Ministry said that so far 38

The ministry, quoted by the

'Sahand 2'' shortly.

Tehran Radio said forces suc-

/V knometres (4)

military

Armenia

meetings unimaginable only five

The Chinese cabinet's paper, "The Taiwan Question And The Reunification Of China," is meant as a political framework for Peking's policies.

As with previous Chinese white papers on the questions of human rights and Tibet, diplomatic analysts looking for new Chinese initiatives were likely to be dis-

The paper again sets forth Peking's unequivocal claim to sovereignty over Taiwan, which has served as a base for the Nationalist Chinese government since Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek led his defeated forces there

It accuses the United States government of causing the division and then working to prolong

ston and then working to prolong it, most recently in 1992 by agreeing to sell Taiwan 150 advanced F-16 jet fighters.

Under the flag of sovereignty, the Chinese white paper rules out any countries having official diplomatic links with Taipei, rejects aiwan's hopes to return to the United Nations and insists that all air transport agreements between third countries and Taiwan be submitted for China's approval. China's strict attitude toward

Taiwan's international political status appears to refle fears among Peking's elderly aders that time is growing short With agreements alread in

of Hong Kong in 1997 and the Portugese enclave of Macao in 1999, Taiwan is now the only issue standing in the way of the Communists' pledge to unify the whole nation under their rule. "For various reasons, Taiwan is still separated from the main-

land," the paper said. "Unless this state of affairs is brought to an end, the trauma on the Chinese nation will not be healed and the Chinese people's struggle for national reunification and territorial integrity will con-

The paper restates China's formula for resolving the issue: The "one country, two systems" proposal that already forms the basis for Hong Kong's return to hinese rule in 1997.

Under this arrangement, Taiwan's Nationalist government would be allowed almost free rein in running the island's internal affairs as long as it bows to Peking on diplomatic issues.

Peking has promised not to station administrative or military personnel on the island, while saying that certain Taiwanese leaders could be appointed to senior positions in the central

"It should be affirmed that the desire of Taiwan compatriots to run the affairs of the island as masters of their own house is justified and reasonable," the



RUSSIAN NAVY IN SEOUL: The Russian missile destroyer Bystry is welcomed by a South Korean Navy I nour guard at the port of Pusan Tuesday. Three vessels from the Russian Navy paid an historic first-time visit, with their comsing hope that the two countries would conduct naval exercises (AFP photo)

Angolan forces advance into Huambo province

LUANDA (R) - Angolan government forces bolstered by fresh recruits and more arms have advanced deep into Huambo pro-vince towards the rebel capital of the same name.

State-run Journal De Angola newspaper reported Tuesday that government troops were now 80 kilometre west of Huambo City, between the towns of Ukuma and Longonjo.

Fighting was raging elsewhere in the central highlands. A Reuter photographer in nearby Benguela province re-ported heavy fighting in recent days around the town of Balom-

bo. The army had opened a new front there in its 250-kilometre push from the Atlantic coast to-wards the UNITA rebel head-The newspaper said five UN-ITA guerrillas died in fighting to reoccupy the village of Monte Belo last week and 20 more were

killed in mop-up operations around Bocoio.

The reports could not be inc _pendently confirmed. Diplomatic sources are sceptical about a claim in state-run media Monday that 2,000 UN-

ITA men were killed in fighting in the area last week. After months of disarray, the government last month launched a push towards Huambo City to try to recapture the provincial capital seized by UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) last March and relieve pressure on besieged Cuito 120 kilometre to

Western diplomats say the government is under pressure to complete the operation before October, when the rains resume. Government forces are in improved shape following a big recruitment drive and a fresh supply of arms but a speedy recapture of Huambo is far from guaran-

teed, the diplomats said. "They may turn the corner. But they haven't turned the corner yet," one said. The government has recap-

killing that there was more to it tured a string of towns from the than Oswald. coast to Ganda, which is halfway towards Huambo City, and is

Clinton briefed on plan for post-cold war defence

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defence Secretary Les Aspin has briefed President Bill Clinton on his plan for a post-cold war military establishment that is smaller and cheaper but keeps the "for-ward presence" of U.S. forces around the globe.

Mr. Aspin was expected to release the document Wednesday and discuss it in a speech Thursday at Georgetown University, officials said.

The plan is the result of months of internal administration debate on the proper mix of U.S. Armed Forces to meet what Mr. Aspin considers the four main threats to American national security after the demise of the Soviet Union.

Those dangers — the spread of nuclear arms, regional threats such as Iraq or Iran, the failure of democratic reform in the former Soviet Union, and U.S. economic decline - form the basis of Mr. Aspin's reshaping of the Amer-

official familiar with the new

condition he not be identified. Many details have been reported but much remains unknown, including the cost. The Washington Post reported this month that Mr. Aspin's proposed restructuring would cost about \$20 billion more than the \$1.2 billion Mr. Clinton has said he wants to spend on defence over

plan. The official discussed it on

the coming five years.

Mr. Aspin referred to his new plan in a speech last week to a convention of the veterans of

"So much has changed that we believe that we had to review our defence requirement from the bottom up," Mr. Aspin said.

"I have long felt that if we merely cut the cold war forces from the top, we'd simply end up with a smaller cold war force, but that's not what we need," he said. We need a force that's right for the dangers that we face today and into the future.

aspects of U.S. national security.

Top British clubs chase 5-year-old

MANCHESTER, England (AFP) — Five-year-old football wonderkid Kane Jackson is being chased by 20 British chibs. One side has already offered his father Mathhew £10,000 to clinch the boy's signature when he reaches 16, but the 26-year-old tiler turned them down. "We thought hard about it, but he's too young to be tied down and we don't want him manipulated," Matthrough the gulf stream towards the fragile barrier islands of hhow explained. Kane, who can only play in friendly matches pecause he is too young for league football, was spotted by the club at a coaching camp for seven year-olds last year. "The steering currents are changing. We expect the burri-

British producer Wins world scrabble match

NEW YORK (R) - A British television producer emerged victorious from the 1993 World Scrabble Championship Monday, clinching the title with the word "wet" to score 20 points. The producer, Mark Nyman, 26, defeated a Canadian iva five games to two in the third annual competition, which began in London in 1991. Competitors from 20 countries took part in the contest, competing for a top prize of \$10,000 at the prestigious Plaza Hotel in Manhattan. Scrabble, which likes to call itself the world's most popular board game, was invented in the 1930s in New York. Mr. Nyman, part of a 14-member team from Britain and Ireland, is a producer on Yorkshire Televisio ... Countdown programme. He lives in Leeds and is the reigning British matchplay Scrabble champion. Competitors also took part from countries including Australia, Ghana, Israel, Kenya, Japan, Malaysia, Malta, New Zealand, Nigeria, Philippines, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thai-land and the United States.

Japanese protest vending machines selling used panties

TOKYO (AP) - It was no secret that men with a yen could buy used girls' underwear in seedy Tokyo porn shops, but now consumer demand has become strong enough to draw dirty-landdry vending machines out to the suburbs. Thousands of residents in Tokyo bedroom communities: have signed petitions seeking the, removal of recently installed machines, officials said Tuesday. The slang term for the fetishes sera." Buru is the Japaneseapproximation of bloomers, and "sera" refers to the sailor-style girls' uniforms common in junior high and high schools here. In Japan, pornography featuring girls as young as their early teens is common. Last month, police in Tokyo rounded up and reprimanded 101 students, mostly teenagers, for appearing in pornographic videos. Many of the, girls were scouted at a so-called 'buru-sera'' alley in Tokyo, there they came to sell their used underwear, according to police. Hayao Ohashi, a prefectural (state) official in Chiba, east of Tokyo, said 3,662 signatures had been filed with the government, recently protesting the underwear sales. Vending machines that dis-. pense goods as various as lettuce, cameras, and even clean underwear throughout Japan must be registered but no special license.

Stowaway cat

s needed to sell used underwear,

as a pornographic product.

grounds jet LONDON (AP) — A stowaway. cat made an unwelcome appearflight, climbing through a gap between the hold and the cockpit and jumping onto the first offic-er's lap. The cat evaded attempts to catch it during the flight and for several hours on the ground at London's Gatwick Airport, the Daily Telegraph reported. The scrawny tabby was eventually. tempted out by a plate of hamburger and promptly put in quarantine. The newspaper said the cat was one of thousands of strays living in the airport in Harare, the capital of Zimbabwe. It said the cat popped up midway through the 10-hour flight to London. "It clambered out from the rudder pedal slot, between the legs of the first officer and jumped on his lap," it quoted an airline spokesman as saying. "It gave him the fright of his life."

Crew members tried to catch the frisky feline, but it escaped the way it came, into the gap between the roof of the hold and the floor of the flight deck and cabin of the Boeing 767. Ground staff and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals joined the hunt at Gatwick, but the cat evaded them. Eventually, they startled the cat into running into the nose of the plane under the flight deck where they could iso: late it. Then it was a simple matter of putting down a plate of hamburger and waiting for the cat. to get hungry.

NEWS IN BRIEF

ISLAMABAD (R) - At least 34 people have been killed in two days of pre-election violence in Pakistan, including seven shot dead Tuesday while praying in a mosque on the anniversary of the birth of the Prophet Mohammad. An armed man burst into the small mosque in the ancient Rajgarh district of central Labore and sprayed the congregation with automatic gunfire, killed seven people and injuring 15 as they knelt in prayer, police said. "If the worshippers had been standing perhaps there would have been more chance of survival," senior police superintendent Tanvir Ahmad said by telephone from Lahore. The gumman entered the mosque as the congregation of about 30 were finishing regular early morning prayers and opened fire with a Kalashnikov assault rifle, a police officer said. The man escaped on a motorcycle driven by an accomplice waiting at the gate, the officer said.

21 Rio sturn dwellers killed

De Janeiro shanty town where 21 people were gunned down Sunday gged journal of a leave for fear the lers would return. I'm standing nere speaking to the cameras but I am scared, I'm scared," a crying man told television reporters Monday. Around 20 hooded gunnen armed with automatic managers burst into the Vigeria Geral shanty town close to weapons burst into the Vigario Geral shanty town close to midnight Sunday in what appeared to be revenge for the deaths of four pouce officers the night be ore, a police official said. Witnesses said they saw the group of armed men descend shooting from four cars at the plaza where the Rio De Janeiro officers had been killed. "They jumped out of the car shooting wildly in every direction," said a teenager who asked not to be identified and who had watched the scene from a neighbouring house. Men and women who until moments before had been relaxing at near-by bars escaped in panic while the hooded men set fire to carts and shot dead a passer-by, the teenager said. The killers then split up into three groups and raided the shanty town where they seemed to choose their victims at random.

unification in late 1990.

U.S. ambassador who that the Council woul 30 people to prepare i larger deployment. Earlier Businessman Robert Malval toc he reins of a new Haitian government and immediately appealed for economic aid to help restore democracy to his impoverished homeland. Mr. Malval was installed as Haiti's new prime minister in an emotional ceremony at the Haitian embassy here presided over by exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, who was ousted in a September 1991 coup and is to be restored to power Oct. 30.

Nigeria ports hit by democracy strike

strikes by workers opposed to the country's new unelected interim government and the introduction of a new expensive grade of petrol into the market. There is no work at Apapa and Tin Can ports," an official at the headquarters of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) said. She said the few administrative staff who turned up for work at NPA were about to return home. The central trade union body, the Nigeria Labour Congress, and the main oil workers union called the strike to demand a democratic government and the withdrawal of a high priced grade of petrol from the

Seoul: Chun exaggerated dam threat

SEOUL (R) - South Korea's anti-graft investigators accused months-long investigation into the dam project, the BAI said

Gunman kills 7 in i kistan mosque

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — The survivors of a massacre at a Rio

German asylum hostel set abiaze

COLOGNE, Germany (R) - Fire broke out in a hostel inhabited by around 100 asylum seekers in the western German town of Detmold early Tuesday morning, and police said they were not ruling out arson. A police spokesman said the fire started in a closet under the stairs. The inhabitants were evacuated but later allowed to return. Four were taken to hospital suffering from smoke inhalation. Germany has experienced a wave of racist violence, often carried out by young skinheads or neo-Nazis, since

U.N. considers Halti security mission

UNITED NATIONS (AP) - The U.N. Security Council Monday discussed a proposed 1,000-person-strong mission to Haiti that would help modernise the police and army in the violence-prone nation. Cancil President Madeleine Albright, the is the Council this month, announced n disptach an advance mission of up to

LAGOS (R) -- Nigeria's main scaports were crippled Tuesday by

ex-president Chun Doo Hwan Tuesday of exaggerating the danger of a suspected North Korean plan to build a dam that could unleash flood waters into the South. The Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI) said in a report Mr. Chun made an improper decision to build a dam on the North Korean border to counter the water threat from the North. Wrapping up a Mr. Chun intended to use the issue of national security to "stablise domestic politics" at a time when pro-democracy calls were threatening his strongarm rule. "We concluded the decision to build the dam was not properly madeand Chun's administration exaggerated the perceived threat of North Korea's water offensive against the South," a BAI spokesman said. Mr. Chun, who ruled the country for eight years until February 1988, has denied any wrongdoing in the decision to build the peace dam on the Han River, just south of the border with Communist North

evacuation of Dare County, ican military. which includes Cape Hatteras, and said 70,000 to 75,000 of the 100,000 residents and holi-"It is a response to the new world," said a senior Pentagon Mr. Aspin said his plan was developed by examining all daymakers there had now left.

The new, old truth about JFK WASHINGTON (AP) — More and found some new evidence — John F. Kennedy, most saying he example. punished conspiracy.

A book that has just come out may turn out to be the most controversial. If you believe polls, most people won't believe

what it says.

It says there was no conspiracy to kill Kennedy. No Cuban con-nection. No Soviet intrigue. No CIA-FBI plot and military-industrial plot. No mob plot. No left-wing plot, no right-wing plot. No Lyndon Johnson scheme to

seize the presidency.

It says that Kennedy was killed by Lee Harvey Oswald, acting alone. If that sounds familiar. there's a reason. That's been the government line. The Warren Commission

reached the same conclusion, on Sept. 24, 1974, in 296,000 words. That was before JFK, the movie that convinced a whole generation that knew nothing about the

Lawyer Gerald Posner, 39, the author of Case Closed says he's gone over all the old evidence trying to consolidate its positions.

more than support the overall conclusion that the assassination was the crazy act of a crazy man. About the more than 2,000 books he says have been written about the assassination, Mr. Posner says he didn't realise how

vehemently others believe otherwise. He has been getting unfriendly calls from the assassination community. For the rest of his life, he's beginning to realise, he's going to the object of their "I initially doubted that I would be able to convert those:

who hold on a conspiracy theory as though it was a religion," he said in an interview. "But I JFK, professing a vast government conspiracy had killed the with an open mind they would at president, there was nothing least put the case of Oswald acting alone back in the discus-

Now: "I don't think I'll get that hearing. The initial response has been vehement and at times quite nasty. I am a greater foe than their own intra-group squabbles about who killed Kennedy."

than 2,000 books have been written about the assassination of the famous Zapruder film, for cates. He told Mr. Posner, "They won't ever let you alone again. later."

The American people have been skeptical from the start, and their skepticism has grown. A gallup poll a week after the

assassination said that only 29 per cent of Americans believed Oswald killed JFK. After the Warren Commission report came out, 56 per cent said they accepted it. In a 1988 poll, only 13 per cent

said Oswald was alone responsible. Three years later, that number fell to 11 per cent. At the least, Mr. Posner has

made accessible the contrary president, there was nothing around to dispute the movie. But the hardest reason to accept Oswald as the killer is Oswald. The enormity of the

crime does not square with the puniness of the criminal.

Case Closed: Lee Harvey Oswald And The Assassination Of JFK, is being published this He'd been warned. James Phe- week by Random House.

Jackson enters hospital but to perform today rounded by security guards. He allegations surfaced). I plan to go left in a beige-coloured van," she and visit him very soon."

SINGAPORE (Agencies) — Pop superstar Michael Jackson went into a Singapore hospital Tuesday afternoon and emerged about three hours later, a policeman at the hospital said.

"Jackson was here and has gone, left the hospital. He was here for two to three hours," the policeman told a Reuter reporter at Mount Elizabeth Hospital. A source said the 35-year-old

entertainer went to hospital because of migraine headaches. Jackson collapsed on stage Monday night shortly before he was due to give a performance and his doctor diagnosed a migraine

A crowd of up to 400 people gathered at the hospital after rumours soread that he had checked in. The crowd began to disperse

after they heard the singer had Earlier, a Jackson spokesman said he could not confirm reports that the entertainer had gone to a

hospital and said all comment would have to wait for a news conference Tuesday evening. Jackson, the target of child sex-abuse allegations in the United States, is on an Asian concert

Jesiam Oey, an insurance agent visiting the hospital, said she saw Jackson rushing from the building.
"I saw him running, sur-

She said doctors had told her Jackson was in the hospital for

three to four hours. Jackson has recovered from a severe headache and will perform his postponed second concert here Wednesday, his doctor said

David Forecast told reporters that the performer would also continue with his Dangerous world tour after Singapore. A taped message from Jackson, played at a news conference said, "I was suddenly taken ill and I apologise for the inconveni-

ence. I will perform tomorrow. I love you all." Jackson's mother defended the embattled pop superstar against child sex-abuse allegations Monday as family members success."
announced they would soon fly to Putting

Asia to lend him support. The normally fractious Jackson family emerged from seclusion for the first time since their most famous member became the target of molestation claims, repeating their unified pledge of

support for him. Jackson's mother, Katherine, who usually shuns the spotlight, told reporters, "First of all, I would like to let the world know that I am behind my son. "I love him. I have talked to

The saga now includes allega-tions that the father of the 13year-old boy, a wealthy Beverly Hills dentist, tried to blackmail

Jackson for \$20 million. Lawyers for Jackson and the boy's father have been unavailable for comment.

Jermaine Jackson, Michael's older brother, said family members would join the singer at one of the stops on his Asian tour, but he said details had not yet been

Appearing with four other family members to promote an upcoming U.S. reunion concert, Jermaine reiterated a statement released last week in which the clan contended the singer was the victim in a "cruel, obvious attempt to take advantage of his fame and

Putting aside disputes that have divided the show business family for years, the Jackson family expressed its support for the embattled singer and said it was "confident that his dignity and humanity will prevail at this most difficult time."

Jackson is steededed to perform twice it will be a performed in the performance in the perf he did not think the allegations of child sex abuse would hurt the family's contributions to children's charities. "I don't think that's going to happen," he said.

fornia Department of Children's Services, the young boy involved worker that he and Jackson had a four-month relationship. The boy said it began with

affectionate cuddling, but esca-lated into sexual acts. The case file contains descriptions of graphic sexual contact,

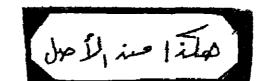
including allegations of oral sex and masturbation. Police investigating the case say that so far they have not uncovered any evidence to justify

filing charges against the singer.

Meanwhile, fans of Michael
Jackson, undaunted by the controversy surrounding the entertainer. Tuesday scrambled for tickets for his first-ever concerts in south Assics, a spokesman for

the booking company said. Some 50,000 tickets were snapped up at 300 outlets countrywide within an hour of booking opening, Percy Tucker, managing director of computicket, told AFP. He expected all 120,000 tickets to be said by Tuesday afternoon.

him several times (since the obtained last week from the Cali-



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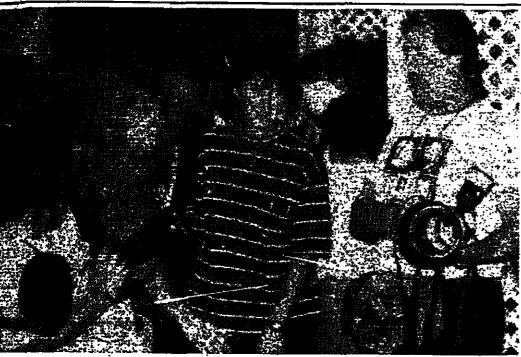
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conference at the U.S. Open (AFP photo)

Seles looks toward Australia

FLUSHING MEADOW (AFP) - Four months after she was stabbed by an obsessed tennis fan, Monica Seles is slowly making her way back, to a normal state of mind, the tennis court and public

She met the press Monday on the first day of the U.S. Open tennis championships, and admit-ted it was difficult to watch another Grand Slam get underway without her.

Though she declined to suggest a definite timetable for her return she did say: "It would be hard to watch another Grand Slam go by." That would point to the Australian Open in

January, though she said she would not want to "Australia would not be my first step. It would be just too tough. I need some match play," she said. "But I just hope I won't have to miss it."

"I miss the sport. I miss practising, I miss the adresalin when you go in a stadium.
"I've watched a little (on television). The first rounds it's OK, but when it gets to the semifinals

and finals, it's hard." "To me it's hard to understand that this happened and I'm missing these tournaments. It would be different if it was a (sports) injury and it

That feeling of helplessness is also at the root of Seles' frustration at her loss of the number one

After hiding away for several months Seles began speaking publicly again only last week, and one of the first things she did was criticise the Women's Tennis Association and her fellow

Location: Jabal Al Weibdeh.

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
41084 VAJ4 VK1072 AAQ7
The hidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 V Pass 1 2 Pass

What do you but now?

A.—Yes, we wholeheartedly endose raising partner's major-suit response with three-card support, but not on this hand! With flat dis-

tribution and stoppers in the other suits, we feel a one-no-trump rebid is a more descriptive rebid.

Q.2-Both volnerable, as South

you hold: 9076 ♥EJ5 ♦AQ6 \$A1065

What do you hid now?

A.—You have a perfectly balanced hand, but partner does not, and your prime values suggest that your hand will play better at a suit con-

tract them at no trump. Tell partner
you have three-card spade support
by hidding three spades. To rebid
three no trump is simply repeating
a massage partner has already
received.

Q.8—As South, vulnerable, you ACLUS 988 OKJ75 AJ8 Partner opens the bidding with one

to tramp. What do you respond?

Partner has a maximum, especially If there is a 4-4 spade fit. Initiate the exploration with a Stayman re-

perhaps to hid a major suit, if

mas of two clubs—a request for

Possibilities for game exist if ter has a maximum, especially

The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 Pass 1 Pass
1 NT Pass 3 Pass

What do you bid now?

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What do you bid now? A.—You are in alam territory, but whether you can make 12 tricks de-

pends on the location of partner's values. Blackwood won't help. To

start an orderly investigation, com-plete the description of your hand by hidding two spades, and see how

–Neither vulnerable, as South

South West 1 Pass ?

The bidding has procee

North Rast
1 6 Pass
2 7 Pass

three no trump.

FOR RENT

players for failing to protect her ranking. Since her attacker's avowed aim was to incapacitate Seles, thereby giving the number one ranking to his idol, Steffi Graf, Seles feels be profited from his action.

"I just felt that this person's goal was to stab me. He came out as the person who got what he wanted. He achieved what he wanted to achieve," she said, the frustration sounding in

Graf, who easily won her first-round match on Monday, said it would have been unfair to

protect Seles' ranking.
"You've got to understand, all of us have got to play all year long and struggle through injuries and tough matches," Graf said, though she admitted that Seles' case was different from a

game-related injury.
Seles acknowledged that it would have been difficult to let her keep the ranking.

"Tennis has always been very competitive and I learned that lesson when I first got to be number one," she said. "That is like the key position to everybody."

To help her cope with her feelings immediately after the stabbing, Seles followed her doctors' advice and talked to a psychotherapist.

She has also talked to other stabbing victims

about their experiences.
"But now I feel," she said, "That it is me that

has to go through it because I am going to be the one that is going on the court and I have to come to grips with it."

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U.S. Open

Graf, Navratilova breeze through

FLUSHING MEADOW (AFP)
-- Steffi Graf and Martina Navratilova, holding the citadel of women's tennis in the absence of Monica Seles, posted convincing victories Monday in the first round of the U.S. Open tennis championships.

Graf the No. 1, and thirdseeded Navratilova turned the opening day into ladies' day as none of the men's top eight seeds saw action.

Graf's 6-3, 6-0 victory over American Robin White took just 42 minutes and looked almost

Navratilova, 36, outfoxed 18year-old Italian Gloria Pizzichini 6-0, 6-1, but said that, these days, none of her matches is casual. "Well, it used to be different because I could just sort of build

up and get ready for the second week, but now I can't guarantee myself that I will be in the second week unless I really just give it 100 per cent," she said.

The Czech-born American number four U.S. Open victories among her 18 Grand Slam singles titles, but said her approach to them had changed with time.

"I used to be able to get away with sort of being there 75 to 80 per cent, just sort of gradually build up. Last year, I barely escaped for granted."

Though still only 24, Graf has also noticed changes since her first stint at No. 1, and her glorious 1988 when she capped a Grand Slam with Olympic gold. She has won five tournaments

since May, including the French Open and Wimbledon, but said it was harder now "I have a lot of tough matches,

close matches, that could have lost this year," she said. "A few years back, things were a lot Meanwhile, off court, Seles was continuing to overshadow the women's singles despite her abs-

ence from the draw. Seles held a press conference at the National Tennis Centre to discuss her recovery from a knife

attack at a Hamburg Tournament Though she has yet to start practising again, Seles is hopeful of returning to challenge the likes

of Graf again. The only top 10 men's seed in action Monday, ninth-seeded Czech Petr Korda, lost a bumpyfive-setter to unseeded South African Wayne Ferreira.

the first and third sets, both of which Ferreira won in tieplayer served well, Ferreira

Korda threw away set points in

proved marginally less bad and won 7-6 (7-2), 4-6, 7-6 (9-7), 3-6. 6-2.
"I just couldn't serve today," said Korda. "I mean, my serve it

iust didn't work. After the slow opening day, the

schedule was packed with stars. Top seed Jim Courier, No. 2 Another home crowd Pete Sampras and third seed Stefavourite, seventh-seeded Jenniffan Edberg, the two-time defend-ing champion, were all to play round match Tuesday. first-round matches Tuesday. A couple of other women's

So was Andre Agassi, seeded seeds advanced Monday. Ninthseeded German Anke Huber only 16th but heir-apparent to the beat Luxembourg's Karin departed U.S. Open kings Jimmy Connors and John McEnroe. Kschwendt 6-2, 6-2, and No. 10 Magdalena Maleeva of Bulgaria Connors, 41, decided to skip the grueling formight while McEnroe will watch from the defeated American Marianne

U.S. OPEN NOTEBOOK

NEW YORK (Agencies) — The U.S. Open, like a hotel or airline, is overbooked.

The U.S. Tennis Association was caught in a "clerical mix-up" Monday when it was discovered the 128-woman singles field contained 129 players.

Werdel 7-5, 6-4.

The Women's Tennis Association said the problem concerned Beate Reinstadler of Austria and Maja Zivec-Skulj of Germany. Reinstalder was placed in the draw, with Zivec-Skulj overlooked despite a higher ranking on the cutoff dates for entries. What to do? Simple

Stage an "extra preliminary round." So in the heat and humidity n one of the most remote courts at the National Tennis Centre, Reinstadler beat Zivec-Skulj 6-1, 6-4.

Plain or seeded?: The first day of The U.S. Open produced more stares than stars. As spectators ambled from court to court, the big question was this: "Who' that?"

Of the 55 singles matches Monday, only seven involved seeds No. 1 Steffi Graf, No. 3 Martina Navratilova, No. 4 Cochita Martinez, No. 9 Anke Huber and No. 10 Magdalena Maleeva among the women, and No. 9 Petr Kora and No. 14 Alexander Volkov among the men.

That means 25 seeds will be on the courts as the first round is completed Tuesday and Wednesday. They'll be spread from the show courts through the back alleys of the National Tennis Centre.

Hamburg's legacy: The stabbing of Monica Seles more than four nonths ago in Hamburg, Germany has brought tighter security to the

Players are escorted by security guards virtually everywhere within the complex, even on court. During matches, two guards sit behind the chair umpire, just in front of the stands. When players change ends, the guards come onto the court and face the stands, watching for any sinister moves.

"I haven't noticed a difference yet, but I have only been here oday," said Martina Navratilova, a four-time champic ★ Human triumph: This was supposed to be the year when the Open

went electronic, with the Tel System of beams and buzzers replacing the men and women judges on the show courts. That plan was dropped last week, however, when officials said

ome brands of shoes were accidentally tripping the system.

Graf was among those who practiced with the Tel System and said she was happy with the decision to stay with people instead of

"I am somebody who is not so much into electronics," she said. "And I prefer to have people sitting on your side because it is just "Back to the drawing board for them," Navratilova said. "I think

entually it is a good idea, but they have to work out all the kinks." ★ Early retirement: The first player to quit playing at this U.S. Open was South Africa's Grant Stafford. He was leading Amos Mansdorf of 6-2, 7-6, 2-6, 0-1, when he stopped because of a stomach virus.

★ Martina Navratilova hopes to steer the women's tennis tour
toward a higher quality schedule in her role as vice president of the Women's Tennis Association.

The 36-year-old player was elected Sunday night and was eager for responsibility after shying away from it in the p "The players need to have a better reign on things and I selected

myself, just to be a part of it," she said. On tournament scheduling, she said, fewer events would mean ugher quality fields, with top players meeting more often to generate erest among fans. "You just don't have people playing each other and as a result, the

Grand Slams get all the glory, she said.

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Jordan's bodybuilding finals set for Thursday

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan's 1993 hodybuilding competition will come to its final showdown Thursday when 27 finalists compete for the title at the Al Hussein Youth City.

The championship, which will be attended by the president of the World Bodybuilding Federation, Ben Weider, will include a special appearance by Jordanian world champion Mustafa Hassanain.

Mr. Weider arrived in Amman Wednesday on a three-day working visit during which he will meet officials representing the Ministry of Youth, the Jordan Olympic Committee, the Al Hussein Youth City and the Jordan Bodybuilding Federation.

FIFA threatens to suspend France

ZURICH (AP) — France was threatened Tuesday with suspension from international soccer because of a growing bribery scan-

Joao Havenlange, president of world soccer's governing body, FIFA, slammed "procrastination" by French soccer authorities in investigating bribery allegations against Olympique Marseille, the European cham-

Havenlange said France must decide whether the team is guilty by Sept. 23, otherwise FIFA's Executive Committee would intercede, and "if need be enforce the terms and conditions of Art. 42 of FIFA's statutes."

"This article stipulates that the Executive Committee may, in the

case of an emergency, suspend an association which would automatically incur suspension from international football activity, Havelange said on a letter to French Soccer Association President Jean Fournet-Favard.

The European soccer authority UEFA, said it would meet Sept. 6 to decide what action to take.

The French association ignored an Aug. 30 deadline set by UEFA to name another club to replace Marseille in the European Cham-

"The president of FIFA added that the impression was being given that those authorities responsible for France's football were not capable of reaching a decision," a FIFA statement said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cagliari sack coach after one match.

ROME (R) — Italian first division team Cagliari sacked coach Gigi Radice Monday after just one match of the new season. Cagliari were trounced 5-2 by Atalanta Sunday and were also out of form in recent warm-up matches. A club spokesman said Bruno Giorgi, dismissed by Genoa last October, would replace Radice. Radice was appointed during the close season after previous incumbent Carlo Mazzone moved to Roma. His insistence on playing a zonal defence brought him into conflict with club president Massimo Cellino. Radice was sacked by Fiorentina last January after falling out with Mario and Vittorio Cecchi Gori, the cinema producer father-and-son double act who own the club.

World champions on gold trail

PARIS (AFP) - Six athletes are still on course for a share of the golden four jackpot of 20kg of gold at Friday's Grand Prix meeting in Brussels. Brussels is the fourth meeting in the series and the winners from Olso. Zurich and Berlin are Michael Johnson (USA) at 400m, Noureddine Morceli (Algeria) at 1,500m, Merlene Ottey (Jamaica) at 100m, Maria Mutola (Mozambique) at 800m, Sonia O'Sullivan (Ireland) at 3,000m and Trine Hattestad. (Norway) in the women's javelin. With the exception of O'Sullivan, silver medallist in the 1,500m, all the others were crowned world champions at Stuttgart last week. If only one athlete finishes with a 100 per cent record, he is awarded the entire jackpot — that is 20kg of gold.

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Idea of Palestinian jail in Gaza brings predictions of violence

GAZA CITÝ, Occupied Gaza Strip (AP) — The garbage, sewage lakes and military checkpoints framing Gaza's main streets have yet to be swept away in anticipation of Yasser Arafat arriving with his autonomy plan. Civil war might come first.

- Mr. Arafat s opponents have a strong base here rooted in the dire living conditions and decades of broken promises for better times abead

They want the autonomy plan to fail, warning of assassinations and bloodshed against the leaders who sell out the Palestinians. Whether they succeed depends largely on whether Middle East peace negotiators starting to hammer out the details in Washington Tuesday emerge with a plan that touches on the common dream for an eventual Palestinian state.

"If Arafat arrived tomorrow I am sure the people in Gaza and Jericho would celebrate. But the question is for how long — two months? Three months? Then what happens?" said Adnan Salim, a 32 year-old former Islamic Jihad activist who retired after being imprisoned.

By many accounts, that is when the bullets would start flying between Palestinians, if not sooner. So far opponents have limited their attacks to leaflets and wall graffiti like one reading, "If you don't take the route of blood, you

will never reach Palestine."
The Islamic group Hamas demanded a strike Tuesday to protest the negotiations, warning Gazans that members would "cut the throat" of anyone who dared even drive around the Gaza Strip.

Cars on the roads were stoned and a 20-year-old Arab man painting slogans against the agreement on a wall was shot dead in a confrontation with

AMMAN (J.T.) - Seventy-

seven Palestinian political activ-

ists have issued a statement de-

nouncing the "Gaza-Jericho

first" option and calling on their

people to resist it with all legiti-

The group, headed by Ibrahim

Bakr, former deputy chairman of

the Palestine Liberation Orga-

al, approved by Israel and the

PLO was an acceptance of parti-

tioning further the "already-

divided Palestinian lands and as

such it poses new dangers to the

"These dangers are repre-

sented by the complete silence

over issues of Israeli settlements.

Jerusalem and the applicability of

the Geneva conventions to the

occupied territories," the state-

to directly address the Palestinian

people bypassing the PLO Executive Committee because the auto-

cratic behaviour of Yasser Arafat

has reached the limits of total

disregard of the resolutions of

PLO institutions like the Pales-

tine National Council," the state-

"The Palestinian decisions are

no longer taken by the Palesti-

nian institutions, especially in se-

rious matters, but by those who act as "pioneers" in selling out

the rights of the Palestinian peo-

ple like the rulers in Cairo who

have been dictating to Yasser Arafat and some of his assistants

their views in total disregard to

the resolutions of the PLO's in-

"We found it imperative on us

mate means.

RUON (PLi

77 activists denounce

plan, urge resistance

man's office said it was checking the report.

The staunchest opponents are from the Islamic Jihad organisation, whose diverse branches throughout the Arab World reject the Jewish state. The Egyptian group took responsibility for assassinating President Anwar Sadat after he signed a peace

treaty with Israel.

Islamic Jihad issued a series of leaflets saying it would exert every effort to make the treaty fail. The leaflet distributed Tuesday called for the PLO leadership to

resign or face a death sentence. Members say Mr. Arafat is the leader who merits assassination, while joking that Sadat might deserve a statue in Gaza's main square since his capitulation with the 1979 Camp David accords at least guaranteed the Palestinians autonomy after five years.

Palestinians have not hesitated to shoot other Palestinians dead when they were accused of collaboration — 750 alleged col-laborators have been killed since the uprising started in December

To police the autonomy the Palestinians are training security forces in Jordan. The men are drawn from the occupied territories, as well as Yemen and elsewhere. But no one is sure that if autonomy is implemented within six months as envisaged they will have the experience necessary to cope with the pressure-cooker

"Mr. Arafat will take us and put us in jail because we are against the peace," said Mr. Salim, the former Islamic Jihad

Opponents describe the plan as a trap dreamed up by Israel and the United States to force the

stitutions," the statement said.

all its terrorist powers could not

control Gaza, why should we

"Now that matters have

reached such deterioration, we

appeal to the Palestinian people

to employ all legitimate means at

their disposal to prevent the

Americans and Israelis from im-

posing an unacceptable and un-

fair formula which aims at trans-

forming the negotiations along the Palestinian-Israeli track to

final concessions and selling out the legitiamte rights of the

Singatories of the statement

included Bahjat Abu Gharbieh, Tayseer Qubaa, Tayseer Khaled and Abdul Rahim Mallouh all

former PLO Executive Commit-

Palestinian people," it said.

Jericho first option.'

underground Israeli troops, Arab Palestinians to castrate their own reports said. The army spokes- armed struggle, because the autonomy government would be responsible for surpressing

attacks against Israeli targets.
"It opens the gates for pain and civil war that we reject," Nayef Hawatmeh leader of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, said in a telephone interview from Damascus. There will be Palestinians fight-ing Palestinians in Gaza and

About 400 leaders of Hamas and Islamic Jihad were expelled from Israel last December and are stuck at the border with Lebanon. They are expected to start returning in September and have repeatedly argued for continuing to fight Israel.

Supporters in Gaza said the rank and file might reject direc-tions to avoid inter-Palestinian

So far Gaza's 800,000 residents - most packed into refugee camps where unemployment hovers around 75 per cent - have yet to take to the streets either in celebration or anger over the

Most everyone is confused about the details.

Palestinians want to hear that the agreement will give them control over the territories occupied since the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, including Jerusalem. They want to be able to chose their own government. They don't want the Israeli army to enter their lives.

"If these conditions are not included it won't-be accepted. This rejection will threaten both the position of the PLO and its leaders," said Yunis Al Jaroh, an attorney and spokesman for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the second most powerful group in the PLO.

PLO planning self-rule army

By Suleiman Al Khalidi Reuter

The statement charged that AMMAN - The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has begun reorganising Palestine Li-beration Army (PLA) units scat-tered throughout Arab countries to take over security after an Mr. Arafat had issued instructions to the Palestinian delegation to discuss the "old Israeli proposal" known as the "Gaza and "Such decision and instructions Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho, PLO official said Tuesrepresent a Palestinian endorseday. ment of the partition of the

Palestinian soil and a further frag-They said that under the plan, the existing PLA brigade in Jormentation of the Palestinian dan has begun to be retrained lands which are already dismeminto the core of a unit to be bered by the Israeli settlements,' known as the Palestine Central Security Force (PCSF). "If the Israeli military rule with

The force would eventually include more than 17,000 members throughout the West Bank and Gaza. PLO sources said.

relieve the Israelis of the burden of occupation," said the state-It would turn many of the 5,000 Palestinian guerrillas and soldiers It said that this "free contribuin existing camps in Sudan, Yetion means the opening of the way for the Palestinian people to slaughter one another." men, Iraq and Libya into security men for the PCSF, effectively ending the PLO's three-decade

old guerrilla army. Under the PLO-Israeli accord being negotiated, the Palestinians will take over most functions of the Israeli military government including internal security and policing after withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jericho.

Another 4,500 to 5,000 fighters - mostly former Fatch guerrillas evicted from Lebanon — will be included in the force later, PLO sources said. Most of them are scattered throughout camps in Yemen, Libya, Sudan, Iraq and

The PSCF will include at least 7,000 guerrillas who fought for the PLO but are not in camps.



the morning after the Israeli government's decision

Israelis kill boy in paralysed Gaza

undercover soldiers shot dead a 16-year-old Palestinian and three other Arabs were wounded in separate incidents in the occupied Gaza Strip Tuesday, Palestinians

They said soldiers disguised as Arabs fired at Azzam Abu Irmaneh from Nusseirat refugee camp when he ordered their vehicle to stop, thinking they were Arab labourers heading for work-

ing in Israel.

Abu Irmaneh was hit in the head and died instantly. Another Palestinian was wounded in the

A strike called by Islamic fundamentalists and dissident Pales-tine Liberation Organisation (PLO) factions to protest the resumption of Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations Tuesday closed most of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. In the Gaza Strip, young strike

King, Assad

(Continued from page 1)

was not the subject of coordina-tion" with the Arab parties in the

Middle East peace talks, he said. Jordanian officials said Jordan,

which has extended to the Palesti-

nians the umbrella of a joint

delegation to the peace talks, was

not consulted by the PLO over

submitted to the King for discus-

sion prior to the PLO's

announcement that there was such a deal," said a senior official. "We are learning about the

details about the agreement from media reports instead of the

Palestinians themselves," he said.

The King himself implicitly criticised the PLO over the lack

Other officials said Jordan was

upset that it was not briefed at all

about the secret negotiations that

the PLO held with Israeli officials

in Europe outside the framework

of the peace process.

"Anything that affects the

West Bank will also affect Jor-

dan." said another official. "As

such, it was imperative that Jor-

dan was consulted about the

of consultations with Jordan

affected the Palestinian side in

head of state for 40 years, could

have extended valuable political

advice to the Palestinians," said a

King Hussein, who was accom-

"King Hussein, a statesman and

accord.

accord.

veteran analyst.

of consultations with Jordan.

the agreement.

aged more than 30 Arab-owned cars that were driven in defiance of the strike call, Arab reports said. Shops and businesses were closed through East Jerusalem

and the West Bank as well. The Muslim fundamentalist group Hamas warned in its strike call that its supporters would "cut the throat" of anyone who dared use a car. Hamas, which considers the peace talks a sellout, is seen as the strongest threat to

Many among the 350,000 Palestinian refugees in Lebanon appeared to have been caught off-balance by the speed of events after 22 months of fruitless Arab-Israeli peace talks.

187 exiles to return Israel within 12 days will take back at least 187 Palestinians exiled to Lebanon nine months

ago, Deputy Army Chief Amnon

discuss coor

panied by Prime Minister Abdul

Salam Al Majali, Royal Court

Chief Khaled Al Karaki and

Military Secretary His Royal

Highness Prince Talal Ben Mohammad, held three rounds of

talks with President Assad before

Reports from Damascus said

President Assad later briefed

Lebanese President Elias Hrawi

returning home.

They will be able to return by

next weekend — all the rest in December at the completion of a year," a parliamentary official quoted General Shahak as telling the closed-door foreign affairs and defence committee.

Gen. Shahak said the Zemraya crossing point to Israel's self-declared South Lebanon "security zone" would be opened for a day. On their return the expellees would undergo a security review.

"Based on the results of the

investigation, it will be determined whether each person will be put on trial, under administrative detention or freed to return home," Gen. Shahak was quoted

as saying.

He said their return along with progress on peace moves could arouse hostilities against Israel among Palestinians of the occupied territories.

dination

Mr. Bouez said Arab partners to

We cannot be joyful over what has been agreed upon as long as we do not see that Gaza-Jericho is a stage in a specified and complete project and as long as we do not see that self-rule includes complete powers we wish

Lebanon, meanwhile, lashed out at the PLO-Israel agreement and said it was unclear and gave

Palestinians little power. "There are two problems with this plan; there is no horizon. What lies after Gaza-Jericho?.. and powers given to the Palestinians within self-rule inside Gaza and Jericho are not sufficient," Foreign Minister Faris Bouez told

reporters in Beirut. Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa "has also criticised the Palestinians for not informing their Arab partners in the peace talks.

Syria has neither officially en-dorsed nor rejected the Gaza-Jericho deal. Syria's state-run media has stressed that Damascus rejects

any "partial solution" to the 45-Political analysts said the lack year-old Arab-Israeli conflict. Mr. Bouez told reporters in Beirut: might even have negatively "Gaza-Jericho first, ' plan, as it the negotiations that led to the

is presented now, does not suggest the precision to assure everyone that the Palestinian people will gain back their land to build their state."

Asked what the agreement would mean for other issues at the 11th round of peace talks, people," he added.

the peace process needed to be assured that it was just a first

for the Palestinian people

Mr. Bouez said the Palestinians did not clearly explain the plan to their Arab partners at a Beirnt meeting which ended on Saturday with them all agreeing to attend the 11th round.

He said he hoped an undertaking by the Arab partners to the neace talks to improve coordination meant that all parties would be fully informed before rather than after decisions were made.

"Until now features of this project are not clear, which suggest getting back Gaza and Jericho is an operation separate from a complete programme... (from an Israeli withdrawal from occupied territories)," he said.

"If this step was part of a complete programme...the mat-ter would have been totally different." he added.

"What we have heard so far is that the Israeli army will retain its rights to interfere inside these areas," Mr. Bonez said. "Settiements will be (under)

the Israeli army and boundaries of this area will be under direct Israeli surveillance. "Therefore we see clearly that

these powers are a lot less than what we aspire for the Palestinian

Muslims, **Croats** agree on confidence

measures

GENEVA (Agencies) — Bosnian Serbs and Muslims agreed Tuesday on a series of confidence-building measures as part of an eventual peace accord, but were still far apart on territorial questions, Sarajevo officials

Miro Lazovic, president of the Bosnian parliament, said the agreement was reached during a head-to-head meeting of Bosnia's Muslim President Alija Izetbegovic and separatist Serb leader Radovan Karadzic.

The accord covered five points, including establishment of a hotline between Sarajevo and the Serbs' headquarters at nearby Pale, cessation of hostilities and an "all for all" exchange of pris-

Also agreed was the creation of a joint commission on the restoration of water, gas and electricity in the war-battered Bosnia-Herzegovina and appeals to Serb and Bosnian media to end their propaganda war.

But Mirza Hajric, spokesman for the Bosnian government de-legation, played down the signifi-cance of the agreement, saying it was only an adjunct to the main discussions on the map which had gotten "nowhere."

A plan presented by peace mediators to divide Bosnia into three ethnic republics would give the Muslims 30 per cent of the former Yugoslav republic, but the Bosnian government is seeking more.

The Bosnian Serbs would see their holding sliced from 70 to 52 per cent and have refused to go any further. Mr. Izetbegovic described the

proposed plan as "unfair," saying t rewarded Serbian and Croatian aggression. He renewed Muslim demands for an additional 10 per cent of Bosnian territory than the current plan calls for. His foe, Mr. Karadzic, rejected

Mr. Izetbegovic's demand and told Mulims they would lose the little land they now hold if war

"If they don't sign, we and Croats could divide Bosnia in two," Mr. Karadzic warned. clude Mr. Izetbegovic, Mr. Karadzic, Mr. Tudjman, Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic. and Bosnian Croat leader Mate

Mediators Lord Owen of the European Community (EC) and Thorvald Stoltenberg of the United Nations originally set Mon-day as the deadline for the parties to accept their peace plan for three ethnic republics linked by a weak central government. The talks were delayed when Mr. Izetbegovic had problems leaving besieged Sarajevo.

Spaniards leave Mostar

Some 60 Spanish U.N. peacekeepers held hostage in the Bosnian city of Mostar by Muslim civilians for five days have been allowed to leave, a Spanish de-fence ministry spokeswoman said in Madrid.

"They began pulling out about 10 minutes ago and are returning to Medjugorje," the spokes-woman said at 1230 GMT.

The Spanish soldiers were trapped in the besieged Muslim quarter of Mostar last Thursday after escorting a U.N. relief convoy

French mother is Eiffel Tower's 150,000,000th visitor

PARIS (R) - The Eiffel Tower greeted its 150,000,000th visitor Monday, a 33-year-old French mother who was showered with gifts and mobbed by waiting journalists. "I don't know what to say. I'm very moved, happy and a bit surprised," Jacqueline Mar-tinez told a swarm of reporters, photographers and television cameramen at the base of Paris' 320-metre (1,050-foot) metal tower. Behind Mrs. Martinez stood a downcast Spanish tourist ... who had missed his chance by a matter of seconds. Martinez was given a sporty red Citroen ZX 🗭 Coupe, hoisted by helicopter to the tower's first floor where it stood next to a statue of the 104-year-old landmark's creator, Gustave Eiffel. She also received a huge bouquet of flowers, a guided tour of the world's most visited monument and a gift voucher worth 150 times her age — 4,950 francs (\$845) — to buy souvenirs. It was the third time Mrs. Martinez, a security guard at Paris' Charles de Gaulle-Roissy Airport, had visited the famous spire which has become the symbol of Paris. This time she brought her mother, two young consins and her five-year-old son. The 100,000,000th visitors — the wife of a french taxi driver who won a car in 1983 - was there to congratulate her.

Hundreds of TV fans show up for U.S. chat show

NEW YORK (R) — U.S. chat show host David Letterman premiered his much-awaited programme on a new television network after hundreds of his fans waited outside a Broadway theatre to get in. A media feeding frenzy greeted the Late Show With David Letterman, with television satellite trucks, excited fans and a bust of the gap-toothed star carved in butter, all outside the historic Ed Sullivan Theatre where the show was taped. Letterman, who received a standing ovation from the enthusiastic opened, specialises in off-beat, satirical humour and his "Late Show" was poised to compete to with "The Tonight Show," a U.S. tradition which has been broadcast nationally for three decades. 🖾 🛴 The taping began Monday afternoon with disappointed standby :-ticket holders outside the theatre and CBS Television Network executives watching via closed-circuit television in McGee's, an Irish bar next door to the theatre. Letterman's new venue is a Broadway and television landmark and was the site of the Beatles' first U.S. television performance on Feb. 7, 1964. His move to CBS, after a much-publicised rift with rival network NBC, was marked by appearances from actor Bill Murray, singer Billy Joel, and a cameo showing by film star Paul Newman.

Thai king donates \$320,000 to cool traffic heli

BANGKOK (R) — Thailand's revered King Bhumibol Adulyadej has donated eight million baht (\$320,000) to Bangkok police to help resolve the hellish problem of traffic in the capital, newspapers reported Tuesday. The donation follows an unusual personal appeal from Queen Sirikit to do something about the terminal gridlock, which she said was putting Bangkok people into a bad mood and threatening the city's name, the "City of Angels". "Bangkok is becoming desperate," the Bangkok Post daily quoted her as saying in a birthday message earlier this month. The capital was brought almost to a halt again Monday almost to a halt again Monday night as moonsoon downpours flooded major arteries. Cars on several major thoroughfares took more than an hour to move 100

800,000 take part in Nottina Hili Carnival

LONDON (AFP) - Nearly 800,000 people took to the streets of West London for the final day of the Notting Hill Carnival, one of the biggest street festivals in Europe, police said. There were no major incidents of unrest during the course of the two-day event, organised by Britain's Caribbean community but attended by West Indians from throughout Europe, as well as others. In the past the caraival has been marred by violence and arrests. Nearly 8,000 police were deployed for the event this year. Less than 10 people were arrested for drunkenness

Palestinian refugees in Jordan split over Gaza-Jericho plan

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Palestinian refugees in Jordan Tuesday appeared deeply split in their reaction to the Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) agreement on partial Palestinian control of the occupied Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jericho as part of interim self-rule arrangements. In general, the opinion varried depending on the places of origin. Those who came from cities and villages in pre-1948 Palestine rejected any solution that does not addres the implementation of U.N. general assembly resolution 194 which

deals with their problems. The resolution, passed in 1948, calls for allowing Palestinians displaced by the creation of the state of Israel to return to their homes or receive compensation.

While some refugees from the Gaza Strip and West Bank said either that the Palestinian problem will never be resolved if anyone depended on Israeli and American "goodwill and desire for peace," others said they would like to wait and see

whether the so-called Gaza-Jericho option meant total Palestinian control of territory without any Israeli interfer-

Many of the refugees, having seen themselves pushed out of mandated Palestine in 1948 and again from the West Bank and Gaza in 1967, said they believed Israel had no intention to return land under its occupation. They argued that the "Gaza-

Jericho first" option could not be anything but part of an Israeli plan to get Palestinian endorsement of peace with the Jewish state and offer autonomy as a long-term arrangement. This, they said, would eventually clear the way for Israel to normalise relations. with the Arab World and emerge as a regional economic power.

An equal-number of refugees said it was too early to pass judgement on the plan, advocating patience ahead of the revelation of complete details of the agreement which the Israeli cabinet approved

There were also a few voices of resignation to accepting that there is little the Arabs could do to get anything more than Israel is willing to give. The hardline view seemed to

prevail in the Bekaa camp. "The Gaza-Jericho first solution is the Gaza-Jericho last solution," said Hussein Ibrahim, a tailor in the camp. "Israel is not going to give anything more, now, five years later, or ever." "We have seen the deceptive

politics of not only Israel but also the PLO," said Ramadan Kamel, an unemployed youth whose family fled a village near Ramallah in 1967. "Now that the two have got together, nothing good is going to come out except a sellout of the Palestinian cause."

"What are the Israelis asking for? A good behaviour certificate from the Palestinians?" he asked. "Why don't the Americans force Israel just to withdraw from the land and leave the Palestinians to do what they want with it? Why all this autonomy and interim arrangements and what not?" Sipping coffee in a small

the biggest refugee camp in Jordan, Mr. Kamel also blamed "Arab disumty and pro-Western Arabs" for the Palestinian plight.
"If the Arabs were united

and put up a strong front, then my family will not be in this camp," he said. "My parents still believe they can go back home, but I tell them not to Fatima, an elderly mother of

six from Kalkaliya in the West Bank, was furious that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat accepted a deal with the Israelis without securing the right of refugees to return home immediately. "Abu Ammar (Mr. Arafat) and his people will now go to

Jericho and set up offices or do whatever they want," she said. 'What about us in this camp? Can we go home, and if so when? Are my grandchildren going to die of old age here?" Amina, her neighbour, disagreed. "Abu Ammar will find a way through soon. We have to wait for some time more,'

she said with conviction. When

pressed, she admitted that her

two sons were ardent suppor-

PLO faction, but insisted that it had nothing to do with her trust in the PLO chairman, who is honest and will not make bargains on Palestinian

Mustafa Oheidi, a taxi driver, accused Mr. Arafat and "all other PLO leaders" of "seeking to serve their own personal objectives at the expense of the Palestinian people "Arafat would like to see

himself carried on the shoulders of the Palestinian people across the bridge during his life time," said Mr. Oheidi, "that is his dream and ambition. He couldn't care less for what happens to the millions of Palestinians whom he claims to represent."

"Israel is taking Arafat for a ride, and Arafat in turn is taking us for a ride," he added. "Why can't they just announce that there is not going to be a Palestinian state and then leave us alone to think what we can do to regain our rights. We can do such thinking much better without people like Ara-

"History will record that the

process but a surrender pro-In downtown Amman, mod-

eration appeared to be hold-"We don't know yet what

agreement Arafat has secured from the Israelis," said Nazmi Qawash, who works at a readymade garments store. "I am willing to accept the Gaza-Jericho option if it means total and unequivocal Palestinian control of territory."
"I don't want Israeli soldiers

to treat me like a beggar when I cross the bridge next time, o ever after that," he added. "Is Arafat or anyone else can assure me of that then I am all in support of the plan." Mr. Qawash's colleague,

Saad Abu Rad from Jerusalem, said that was not enough. "The return of Gaza and Jericho or whatever should be coupled with an international declaration accepted by Israel and guaranteed by the United States that an independent Palestinian state will be created in five years.

Then I will accept even one inch of land and put up a Palestinian flag there and wait

Nidal Amer, a pavement vendor, argued that "after so many years of struggle it is not fair that we get only self-rule and have to prove ourselves before others will consider our legitimate rights."

"I don't really believe Israel will return the land to us. It is an illusion that it wants to create."

Mahmoud Atar, a resident of the Widhat camp, said he believed that the Labour-led government in Israel seriously wanted to end the conflict with the Arabs, "but is trying to reach a solution which gives as little as possible to the Arabs."

"But what can we do about it? Nothing. The Arabs are divided and some of them are even serving Israeli interests by lifting the (trade) embargo and cooperating with Israel in world forums.

Ihsan Shehadeh, his with ered body visibly shaking, pulled out an old rusty key from his collapsed cupboard in Bekaa. "This is the key to my home in Haifa. I carried it with me when I left.

"Can Arafat return me there to reopen my door?"